

FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 32 NO. 10 THE ALL-FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

JULY 1990

75 Cents

PACIFIC ADVENTURE

By Frank Nankin, K4BNZ

March 3rd . . . my wife and I are off to the South Pacific. First stop is Honolulu, Hawaii on Waikiki Beach at the Sheraton Moana Surfrider. The day we arrived the hotel employees went on strike . . . great timing! However, the remaining staff handled everything adequately and we managed okay.

We took a tour of the island. We watched the surfers on the north shore where the famous "bonzai pipeline" takes place, but the sea was comparatively calm, so no "pipelines" were in evidence. Afterward we visited the Polynesian Cultural Center, which is a large complex depicting the culture of the various Polynesians from Samoa, Tahiti, Tonga, Fiji, Hawaii and Maori (now known as New Zealand).

This is a very interesting place and is run by the students of Brigham Young University that has a large college campus near the center. The students involved in the shows alternate daily between the center and the college. This is a "must see" if you visit Hawaii.

Another "must see" is the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. It is a stark reminder of the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941. Also the International Cemetery where all the people that died in the attack are buried.

Most people don't realize that the Hawaiian alphabet has only 12 letters consisting of five vowels and seven consonants. Therefore, many Hawaiian names use repetitious letters such as: likelike (highway), hanauma (bay), makapuu (point) and kamehameha (king).

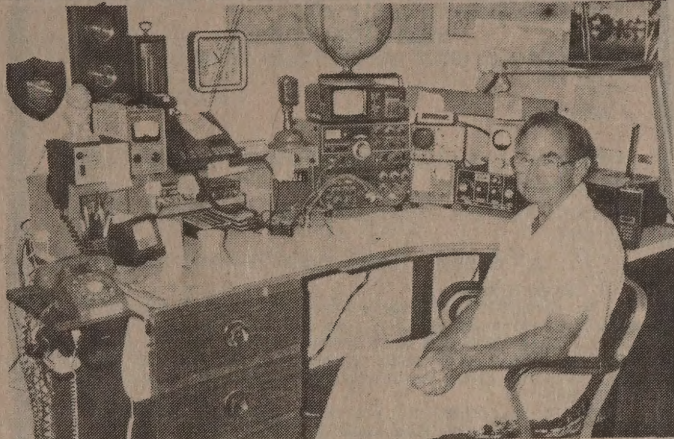
From Hawaii, we flew to Auckland, New Zealand, a modern, thriving metropolis of three-quarter of a million people, which is New Zealand's largest city. The total population of New Zealand is only four million people but 10 million sheep. The countryside is quite picturesque with snow-topped mountains and lush green valleys.

We visited a sheep ranch and watched the dogs bring in the sheep. Then we witnessed a sheep being sheared of its wool, which is baled and shipped to the mills for processing.

At Auckland, we boarded the Royal Viking Sea, our home for QSY back page Col 1

COMING EVENTS

Melbourne Hamfest, Sept. 8 & 9th
 West Palm Beach Hamfest, Oct. 13 & 14th
 LARA, Eustis Hamfest, Nov. 3 & 4th
 Tampa Suncoast Convention Nov. 17 & 18th
 Okeechobee Hamfest, Dec. 1st
 Citrus Co. Hamfest Crystal Rvr. Jan 26 1991
 Miami Hamboree, Feb. 2nd & 3rd
 Sarasota Hamfest, Feb. 16 & 17th
 Orlando HamCation, Mar. 15, 16 & 17
 Any others ?? Write ASAP. AC



Meet John Witherspoon, W4GUJ of High Springs. John is an Ole Timer in Florida. His first ticket was May 21 1940. He's been active ever since. Recently W4GUJ was featured on the front page of the HIGH SPRINGS HERALD with this photo. The HERALD gave him and Amateur Radio a beautiful story! The best we've seen in years. Now that we are in Hurricane season, why don't you contact your local, Newspaper, Radio and or TV news director and tell them about what amateur radio can do disasters. Remember it pays to advertise. A big congratulations to Mr. Witherspoon on excellent job.

BUZZ SAW, U.S.A.

A new radar system that will allow military observers to look over the earth's horizon and get an earlier warning of enemy aircraft — or drug-smuggling planes — has been turned over to the Air Force. This new "American woodpecker" may also play havoc with a lot of shortwave communications, including many operations in the amateur bands.

The \$680-million Backscatter System turned over to the military a few weeks ago, gives the Air Force eyes over a semi-circular, 4.5-million-square-mile swath across the Atlantic from Greenland to Cuba. The operations center is based in the outskirts of a central Maine city and the antennas are in Moscow (Maine).

The Maine system is the first of four that will eventually form an early warning shield around most of North America's perimeter. Its range of up to 1,800 miles is nearly 10 times greater than that of conventional radar.

While the over-the-horizon system was designed primarily to give the Air Force more time to spot enemy bombers, it will also be useful in detecting small planes carrying illegal narcotics. A bank of 16 computer systems collects the required flight plans from all planes that enter the Backscatter System's range, telling technicians whether aircraft represented by blips on their computer screens belong in that airspace. The system gains its remarkable reach by bouncing radar signals off the ionosphere, enabling the radar to exceed the normal radio horizon.

The signal leaves from three, 3,600-foot long antenna arrays in the Western Maine Town of Moscow. Reflected signals bouncing back from the aircraft are picked up 100 miles away by three receivers, each of which has antennas that are nearly a mile long, in the Town of Columbia Falls.

A similar system with components in California, Idaho and Oregon is 90 percent complete and is expected to come on-line in

QSY P. 3

FLORIDA SKIP (USPS 000485) ISSN 08915482 is published monthly for \$8.00 per year by FLORIDA SKIP, Inc., P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

Second Class Postage is paid at Miami, Florida. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FLORIDA SKIP, Inc., P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.



STAFF:

Andy Clark, W4IYT, Editor/Publisher.
Bob Denton, WB4FGL, Proof Reader.
Bob Watson, W4DTV, North Florida Representative.
Anne Clark Ramey, Copy Layout.

STATE EDITORS:

CW: Ed Roller, K4IA. Box 894, Punta Gorda 33951.
DX:
Clubs:

SSB Nets: J. Scungio, N4KFU, 346 Whitefield Avenue, Sarasota 34243.

Packet: Al Vesce, K4CY, 13020 Montour Street, Brooksville 33773.

QCWA: Eli Nannis, K4JMH, 14996 Imperial Point Drive North, Largo 34644

Any item in FLORIDA SKIP may be reprinted in any other publication in the world, with a credit line, please.

The publishers of this paper do not assume the responsibility of statements made by their advertisers in business competition. All signed articles published in this paper represent solely the individual opinions of the writer and not those of FLORIDA SKIP.

DEADLINE: 8th of month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.
(See advertising rates in Hambar Section.)

SILENT KEYS

K1BI	Herbert G. Cole	Mt. Dora
WB4CBP	Theodore R. Wayne, 72	Miami
KA4HAR	Ralph Jackson	Lake Worth
K3VJP	J.J.H. Lofton	Ocala
W4BIF	Royce C. Savelle	Orlando
WA4GAB	Myron E. Chesley	St. Augustine
N4HRI	Walter Bauer	Gulf Breeze
K4JDW	Geo W. Sprehn	Bradenton
W4WOL	Rov Sarson	Deland
KB4YK	James Huggines	Boca Raton
WA4ZVO	Phillip Stern	St. Petersburg.
NOTICE KA4EET was listed last month. Ron said NO SO. Someone sent in wrong info. Very sorry Ron. Henceforth send newspaper death notices only. AC		

OPEN LETTER

I would like to publicly give a big "thank you" to the Polk Ham Club Sun 'n Fun EAA Fly-In Amateur Radio Staff, for the most-gracious way they thanked me for my participation in the EAA Fly-In. Besides an informative letter and lovely certificate I received a most-beautiful and colorful EAA Fly-In lapel pin.

Thank you all. This way I can reach all of you. Hugs and kisses to all, for being most-helpful.

Thank you, it was all my pleasure.

—88,
Laura A. Magiera, WA9VND
2543 S.W. 14th Court
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442

SIXTH EDITION 2 METER REPEATER MAP

We are happy to announce the 6th edition of our famous 2 meter map. Map editor, Bill Tucker, W4FXE did his usual excellent job. The map is 11 by 17 inches printed on easy to read light yellow bond paper with black ink. Each city has its own box containing repeater frequencies. Another list is along the left side making it easy to see which city has what frequency. We are keeping the price down to 25 cents each plus your Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) to "2" MAP, P. O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

Dear Andy:

Let me begin by saying we in the Florida Repeater Council very much appreciate Florida Skip and your willingness to publish information related to our group which is of interest to repeater owners and users throughout the State of Florida. Eventually, the FRC would like to publish a newsletter to its members which will have specific repeater coordination items. However, even after such a newsletter should start, we would still look to Skip as the best way to disseminate information to the repeater user community.

There are a good many issues which need to be resolved by the FRC Board of Directors. The election process for certain of the directors has been started. Ballots will be sent to those on the current mailing list, but votes will only be counted from those who pay their dues and maintain membership-in-good-standing.

We have received a number of requests for new two-meter allocations. Where possible, those requests will be honored. However, we should all know by now the two-meter band is very full and in almost all of our major metropolitan areas there are no available slots for additional allocations.

There are, though, a number of coordinations which have been made in past years which, for one reason or another, are not currently occupied by an active repeater. Each coordinated frequency should have an active repeater. If it does not, the repeater coordination can become eligible for reassignment. This has been policy for years, but we are now beginning to enforce it. The frequencies have become too precious to allow them to remain fallow.

Additionally, the FRC is looking toward the establishment of minimum standards for coordinated repeaters, such as elevation and ERP. It has also been suggested we embody class of service designations for individual coordinations. Such class of service designations may determine such items as coverage area and maximum height. We will be looking toward the owners and users of repeaters for guidance in these areas.

Over the years, amateur radio has established itself as a very effective "self-policing" radio service. Repeater councils are the logical extension of that concept. The FRC or any repeater council, can be effective only to the extent that we voluntarily cooperate with its policies and rulings, providing we strive to allow all amateurs fair access to developing such policies and rulings.

Not everyone can own and operate a repeater, at least not in our more-crowded bands. More and more often, when requests for new coordinations are made the answer is going to be no, we wish we could, but no. There are those, though, who feel they have a "right" to own and operate an uncoordinated repeater regardless of its impact on other coordinated repeaters. If we in the amateur community allow this attitude to prevail, it could ultimately ruin access to every repeater in the state due to co-channel and adjacent channel interference.

Amateur radio is not a protest movement, it is a hobby. Anyone who thinks they are going to take on the "establishment" with their repeater is quite misdirected. These individuals would be better off using more appropriate forums, such as the ACLU, Greenpeace or the Moral Majority.

Again, thank you for your patience. The FRC is making progress, but we do have a long way to go.

Sincerely,
Lawrence D. Stephey, KJ4DG
Acting President
Florida Repeater Council

Dear Andy:

There seems to be a problem in the local ham community with getting Florida Skip in time.

I have discussed it with several other hams on the air and in person, and it seems I am not alone with this problem.

As of this date, June 2nd, I have not received my June Skip. But other hams out of the Miami area have gotten theirs. In fact I got a call on a piece of equipment I was selling on May 28th, he got his five days ago!

Last month I got my Skip late, also. I am not particularly interested in who was leader in D.X. or who made the most contacts on Field Day, this is not dated, the "Ham Bars" are.

It is also a problem in respect that if a person gets his Skip late, he may think the item is sold and will not call. If you could look into this problem, it would be greatly appreciated.

Richard Marsh, WA4JJQ
7350 Buchanan Street
Hollywood, FL 33024

(Editor's Note: As you know all Skips are mailed at the same time, normally about 24th or 25th of each month. Pick-up U.S. Postal Service Consumer Service Card (Form 4314-C). Fill it out and turn it in at your local post office. They will give you a reply within 10 working days. Good luck.)

MOST FOLKS ARE ABOUT AS HAPPY AS THEY MAKE UP THEIR MINDS TO BE. Tks W4ELR..

FLORIDA SKIP, INC.
P.O. Box 501
Miami Springs, Florida 33266

Enclosed is \$8.00 FOR 1 year subscription to FLORIDA SKIP. My mailing address is:

☐ New. ☐ Renewal

My CORRECT address is: Call _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

PLATINUM COAST AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

25th ANNUAL MELBOURNE HAMFEST

9:00 to 5:00 Saturday September 8, 1990

9:00 to 4:00 Sunday September 9, 1990

Melbourne Auditorium, Hibiscus Blvd, Melbourne, FL

Talk-in on the 146.25 / 85 Repeater

Swap Tables

\$10 one day, \$15 both days

Limit 2 adjacent tables per request.

Include check payable to PCARS for
table fee plus registration ticket (s) fee.

SASE please, will speed response.

Registration:

\$4.00 Advance per person,

\$5.00 at the Door, includes both days

SASE only, Held at Door Otherwise

Hotel Accomodations:

Melbourne Ramada Inn

9645 S. Harbor City Blvd

Melbourne, FL 32901

407-724-4422

\$39 per room, Mention Hamfest

Program:

ARRL Forum & Technical Topics

Net & Group Meetings

Exams will not be given

PCARS Hamfest, 708 Dartmouth Ave, Melbourne, FL 32901

HAMFESTS and CONVENTIONS

By Kay Anderson, W8DUV

This hamfest/packet conference was well worth the six-hour trip from Tampa. Everything was in one place . . . the Heritage Hotel. Plenty of vendors, prizes, meetings and the price was right.

...

My unscientific poll during the past year produced the following features hams like best at a hamfest: a fair price, lots of new equipment, some giveaways, convenience, something for the XYL and kids too, frequent prize drawings (with announcements or posting of numbers) and no conflict with other local hamfests.

Some specific favorites were: the Cincinnati Stagfest, W.V. State Convention, Shelby Hamfest (North Carolina), Dayton Hamvention and the Clearwater/Sand Key Convention.

The stagfest is now a hamfest as they had to let the XYL's in.

The Clearwater affair is now the Suncoast Convention in Tampa.

Some don't like the Dayton Hamvention and won't go back, but they are out-numbered by those who like it.

I've never been to Shelby, North Carolina, so maybe I ought to go. I have been to Jackson's Mills, West Virginia, site of the Annual State Convention and that one gets my vote as the best ever.

First-time visitors get a few surprises. First, there's the unbelievably beautiful 4-H Campground which includes an old mill, a museum, huge dining hall and beautiful landscaping.

The next surprise is: you have to make up your own bed. So, when you register, you pick up your bedding and a meal ticket. Your registration includes three or four meals . . . all you can eat! There are men's and women's cottages. You'll be directed to yours, but once there, you may pick out your bed. Get near a window, there are few air-conditioned buildings. Of course, you could go to a motel near-by, but go ahead and try it once.

When the dinner bell rings, line up for a delicious meal served

family-style. That means, the pass the food and if the plate is empty, go to the kitchen and get a refill.

All the meetings are held in little cabins, most of them air-conditioned.

You will walk quite a bit or drive if you must. Flea market tables are free with registration; \$5.

R.V. overnight parking is \$8. Bring the whole family, as there are contests and demonstrations for the ladies, swimming, after-hours pizza parties, plenty of prizes and it's just an enjoyable place to spend a weekend, even without a hamfest.

The dates are June 30th through July 1st. Follow us up I-75 to Kentucky, where we turn right or take I-95 and turn left. When you cross the border into West Virginia, stop at a welcome station, where you'll get a free map. Jackson's Mill is near Weston. Somebody will talk you in.

Next month: Florida's calendar of events . . . a preview.

DEAD LINE: Dont forget HAMBAR DEADLINES are 15th of each month in Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266. DO NOT ATTEMPT to call in an ad Make sure you print clearly! If we have a typo on a phone number or QTH let us know. No one is perfect! Thanks for your cooperation....Editor.....

From P. 1

about a year. Its range will be a half-doughnut-shaped area across the Pacific from Alaska to south of Baja, Mexico.

The planned central system, with components in North and South Dakota and Minnesota, will focus on the southern part of the continent. An Alaskan system will point toward the western part of the Soviet Union. The system is not effective directly north of the continent, because of electrical disturbances in the atmosphere, that produce the northern lights, but conventional radar operated by NORAD is already in place to guard against intruders from the north.

— (Westlink Report)

TOP TWENTY TRAFFICERS — MAY 1990

By WA4PFFK and KB9LT

1. K4FQU	477	11. K4UBR	209
2. WA4PFFK	391	12. KB4WBY	179
3. N4SS	370	13. N4JAQ	178
4. WA9VND	358	14. KD4GR	175
5. K4SCL	317	15. W4NFK	158
6. WD4IO	305	16. K4IA	154
7. KA4FZI	297	17. WA4GYR	145
8. KB9LT	284	18. AA4HT	140
9. KB6ECH	268	19. WC4D	137
10. WA4QXT	261	20. WA4EIC	134

FLORIDA C.W. NETS

By Ed, K4IA

QFN Manager Nick: N4SS Writes: QFN continues to pay the price of longer daylight hours during May with poor operating conditions on the early session, fewer check-ins and less traffic.

Statistics this month compared to April/May were: early QNI 477/452, late 502/430 with totals of 979/882 and averages of 16.3/14.2. Early traffic 462/321 and 460/350 late. Totals were 922/671 and average 15.4/10.8. Time in session were early 755/643, late 836/687 with totals of 1,591/1,330 and averages 26.5/21.5.

Traffic count has been down in most other parts of the NTS as well, so apparently the time to play outdoors and forget ham radio and traffic has arrived for the summer.

Mention was made last month of an important subject, that being hurricane season. All the prognosticators are busy telling us that we can expect worse storms than usual for the next several years. If you have not checked out your emergency preparations and equipment, it is time to get busy on that. Hurricane season is upon us!

We have gained some members of QFN this month with N4SGQ, K3ML and AA4CH, becoming regulars. Dale, N4SGQ in Crestview can only join in on early session for the moment, because of antenna problems. We welcome all these and any others who might be interested in traffic handling.

On a slightly different note, the absence of K4IA and K4ZK at the same time has driven home the message that we need more people qualified, equipped and willing to take on the various rep and NCS chores that have to be done.

We have had one outstanding station take on some of these functions very successfully. That station is WA4GYR. Congratulations and many thanks for the help, Don! We especially need more participation from North Florida.

During the meeting of the NTS Volunteer Resources Committee (VRC) held on the West Coast during the week of May 27th, it was decided to create a new temporary area staff position — just what we need — right? This one is the area coordinator and the three area coordinators are to act as a working group to make recommendations to the VRC. The VRC will consider these recommendations and make their own recommendations to the Board of Directors.

You guessed it, I have been volunteered again!

If you have any thoughts you would like to pass on in any aspect and any mode of traffic handling or NTS organization, please let me hear from you. I am OK in the callbook.

This may turn out to be my last epistle as manager of QFN, so I would again like to thank you for the continued support of QFN. I have said it before, I say it again: without each and every one of you, we would not have the net that we do. The bottom line is that you are absolutely necessary ... appreciated. 73 and especially thank you for all the help you have given me.

— 73,

Nick, N4SS, QFN Manager

FMSN Reported by O.B., WC4D: As predicted in last month's report with EDT in effect and summer approaching, FMSN had to QSY to 7061 KHz near the middle of the month. Fortunately, signals have been excellent except for occasional QRM from foreign SSB.

Many thanks to Don, N4IWO for monitoring 3651 to send stations unaware of the change to 7061. We lost Don as NCS on Wednesday due to the change, but expect him back in the fall.

Welcome to Bill, AB4TA who has joined us since we moved to 40 meters. And also to Jane, KB4QWG who has rejoined us while operating mobile on her way home from work.

Net stats for May: QNI 338, QTC 89 and QND 613.

Stations with 20 or more QNI were: WC4D — 31, WB4WYG — 28, WA9VND — 27, KA4NFX — 27, AA4FG — 26, KB9LT — 23 and KN4CM 22. Sixteen different stations had 10 or more check-ins.

Unusual circumstances played havoc with our NCS schedule in May, however with the help of Bill, WB4WYG and Rip, AA4HT we managed to keep things moving. It would be nice to have more stations available for substitute NCS when needed. Most of the stations in the net have not acted as NCS and therefore hesitate to volunteer.

There is no better time than now when activity is low and lots of help available. Why not get that first try over with?

FMSN meets at 1730 local time daily on 7061 KHz until further notice. Please join us.

— 73,

O.B., WC4D, FMSN Manager

Gator Net Notes by Cotton, KB9LT: N.M. Don, N4ET is away on a long vacation and George, K4J1 is away for 10 days the first part of June after being NCS 14 times in May.

The net is needing lots of help by more QNI and QTC. We also need more NCS as those summer vacations are hurting!

Here is a thought. Why not start your day as a traffic handler by checking into G.N.? This can be especially useful if you have to be away later in the day and need to place some traffic into the NTS. Our good people will get that traffic on it's way.

If you hear others using 7068 KHz, please look around for us.

See you on Gator Net daily at 0830 local time. You will be very welcome.

— 73,

Cotton, KB9LT, Acting G.N. Manager

As promised last month, a fair amount of listening on QFN was accomplished in Ohio. Sorry if I missed hearing you. At times having D.X. experience was a help, but I want to mention those with consistently good signals for this is what frequently is needed for traffic on both 80 and 40 meters.

In order of average strength from the lists: K4SCL, K4UBR, W4KIX, N4SS, WX4H, AA4BN, KB9LT, W4DL, AA4HT and KB4T.

— 73,

Ed, K4IA

TRAFFIC HOUNDS — MAY 1990

By K4ZK, STM South Florida

NET	QNI	AVG.	QTC	AVG.	SESSIONS	MGR	QTC/QNI
QFN	882	14.2	671	10.8	62	N4SS	0.76
SEFTN	1,241	40.0	265	8.5	31	KD4GR	0.21
FMTN	694	22.4	257	8.3	31	W4NFK	0.37
SWFTN	787	29.1	238	8.8	27	K4FQU	0.30
FPTN	1,369	44.2	197	6.4	31	WB4WYG	0.14
NFPN	2,217	71.5	141	4.5	31	K4UBR	0.06
SVTN	675	21.8	137	4.4	31	KB4LB	0.20
TPTN	415	13.4	128	4.1	31	AA4CH	0.31
GN	232	7.5	127	4.1	31	KB9LT	0.55
FPON	324	10.5	102	3.3	31	WB4GCK	0.31
FMSN	338	10.9	89	2.9	31	WC4D	0.26
QFNS	238	7.7	86	2.8	31	WA4PFFK	0.36
FAST	404	6.5	86	1.4	62	WD4KBW	0.21
SPARC	372	12.0	35	1.1	31	AA4YA	0.09
PBTN	314	11.6	31	1.1	27	WA4RUE	0.10
GCVTN	571	18.4	27	0.9	31	N4SGQ	0.05
DEN	304	76.0	14	3.5	4	N4LTT	0.05
PRVAN	25	2.8	4	0.4	9	WD4KBW	0.16
AIN	54	13.5	3	0.8	4	WA4PFFK	0.06

Total QTC: 2,638 • Average QTC/QNI: .23

S.S.B. TRAFFIC NETS

By Joe Scungio, N4KFU

During a recent AIN Net session, Miss Evelyn, WB4WYR reported that she went on a radio show in Miami, regarding amateur radio. It was a call-in type program and she reports many call-ins. She said that schools from Tampa and Panama City would be talking to the astronaut on the next shuttle. Additionally, she said that the ARRL paid out approximately \$65,000 in claims for the San Francisco earthquake and Hurricane Hugo.

KB9LT reported a new ARIES Net got started on 3990.5 KHz. It will meet Monday through Friday at 9 a.m., local. Cotton said there was much activity.

From Bill, WB4WYG, FPTN Net Manager: Net activity continued at a good pace with 1,369 stations checking in for an average of 44.2 per session. Traffic was a little light with a daily average of 9.5 per day.

The "Golden Cookie" Award went to AA4ZV.

The net welcomed back Miss Evelyn, W4WYR after a long hiatus. She got back on the air with the help of her son, Allan, WA4ATF. She now has just as good a signal as when her husband, Carl put up the original 40/80 antenna.

WA4QXT has been busy with fund-raising activity, so he's been scarce. WASME has most of his antennas down while getting "Cleopatra's Barge" ready for the trip to cooler climes.

KI4CQ sustained a broken wrist from a fall in the tub and is taking a few days off to get back into shape. W4OXE of Ft. Walton Beach will soon be out of the hospital and we hope he gets back on the air, soon.

Seventeen stations checked in 100 percent of net sessions. They were: WD4DAH, WA4EIC, N4GMU, WD4IUD, WA4JDH, N4KFU, N4UL, KB4MON, N4NKA, KA4NFX, NY9Q, KB4RTG, WA4RUE, K4SJA, WA9VND, WB4WXW and WB4ZVD. WA4EIC did keep in touch every day even though he was visiting home in Kentucky.

The net sure appreciates dedication to FPTN for that king of work.

— 73's,

Bill

From Earl, K4FQU, SWFTN Net Manager: During May the net had: QNI 787 for an average of 29.15 and a QTC of 238 for an average of 8.81.

(At mailing time, his write-up had not arrived, so will include it in next months article.)

Q.F.N.S.

By WA4PFFK

Many thanks to Alma, N4MML who has been manager of QFNS for the past 10 months. She accepted the job with the understanding that she and Don, N4ET would be traveling this summer in their motorhome. Don is manager of the Gator Net and Cotton, KB9LT is acting as manager for that net.

QFNS continues in fine business form with a full complement of reps and net controls.

Two new stations who are well on the way to becoming regulars are: Steve, WB2CKM and Debbie, N4YWC, both from Brandon and both operating the same rig.

A pointer on listing out-of-state traffic: QFNS liaisons with QFN, so our out-of-state traffic is normally sent to the QFN rep. However, it should be listed as either 4RN or RN5, because on occasion the RN5 rep from QFN checks in prior to going to RN5. In that case, the RN5 traffic would go to the RN5 rep and the 4RN traffic to the QFN rep. Even rarer is for the 4RN rep from QFN to QNI, but this rep is coming from the early session of 4RN.

Traffic for all states in the Eastern area should be listed for 4RN and traffic destined for either the Central or Pacific areas, is listed for RN5. Florida cities should be listed by their name or common abbreviations as shown in the Florida Traffic Handler's Routing Guide. If the message is for a station usually on the net, then list the call.

A tip to NCS's: when sending stations off-frequency send a pair off and then send a third station to follow, rather than sending all three at once.

Many thanks to: AA4CH, KA4NFX, AA4HT and KB9LT, for picking up the empty QFN rep spots and to KN4CM for picking up the Monday NCS slot.

High-activity stations this month were: KN4CM — QNI 23 and NCS four; WA9VND — QNI 25 and NCS four; WC4D — QNI 27, NCS 5 and QFN one; KA4FZI — QNI 30, NCS five, QFN six and 4RN two; and WA4PFFK — QNI 31, NCS eight and QFN 11.

The Line-Up

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
NCS WA4QXT	KN4CM	WA4PFFK	N4IWO	KA4FZI	WC4D	WA9VND
QFN KB9LT	KA4NFX	KA4FZI	AA4HT	WA4PFFK	WA4PFFK	AA4CH

* WC4D is subbing for N4MML as NCS. WC4D is the regular Friday QFN rep.

AEA's IsoLoop™ HF ANTENNA

REVOLUTIONARY COMPACT DESIGN



Once again AEA has achieved a significant engineering breakthrough with its high-performance, low profile HF IsoLoop antenna. Performance isn't compromised by its small size. Operate your favorite HF band (14 to 30 MHz frequency coverage) from areas with restrictive zoning ordinances or apartments and condos. Or take it with you on vacation. It's the ideal go-anywhere portable antenna. And it's the only antenna you need to cover 14 to 30 MHz. ONE antenna instead of numerous dipoles and without any traps!

150 Watts. Rated up to 150 watts, the IsoLoop transmits and receives on any frequency between 14 to 30 MHz. When mounted with the loop in the horizontal plane, the radiation pattern is omni-directional and horizontally polarized, with the gain of a dipole. Maximum radiation is at low angles which is ideal for DX operation. The IsoLoop may also be mounted with the loop in the vertical plane to provide a null in a desired direction. Tuning is provided by a precision stepper-motor and a small remote control box, the LC-1.

The IsoLoop does not need ground radials and its balanced, shielded feed-loop isolates the feedline from the antenna. The IsoLoop is well-isolated from the feedline. Like AEA's Isopole antennas, your signal is radiated by the antenna and not the feedline. With end-fed antennas, the outside of the coax becomes part of the antenna, resulting in noise and computer hash pickup and increased TVI problems.

High-Q Design. One of the unique features of the IsoLoop is its inherent High-Q. The IsoLoop can be considered a very sharp tunable filter that radiates. The narrow bandwidth suppresses harmonics from your transmitter reducing TVI problems. It also attenuates out-of-band signals from nearby transmitters that could overload your receiver.

Compact. The IsoLoop is square, with rounded corners, and measures 32 inches on a side and weighs only 12 pounds. Because of the IsoLoop's small size, it makes a perfect attic or balcony antenna. It's also excellent for portable operation, recreational vehicles or camp-site use. A rotator is not necessary when used in the

omni-directional, horizontally polarized mode.

Revolutionary. The AEA IsoLoop antenna represents years of research and development. Others may try to imitate the IsoLoop, but none can match the patent-pending design.

AEA also provides technical support from the factory or through your personal computer and modem on CompuServe's HamNet. If you are already a CompuServe member, just type GO

HAMNET at any CompuServe prompt. For a free introductory CompuServe membership, call 1-800-848-8199 and ask for representative #48.

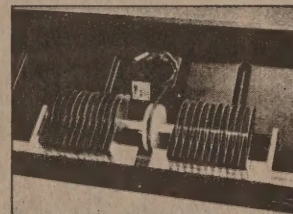
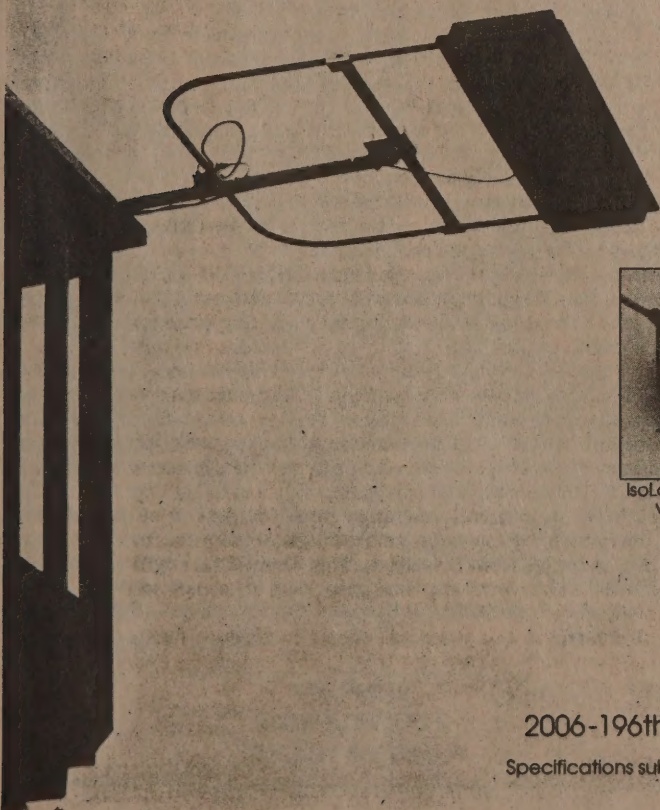
AEA Brings You A Better Experience

Advanced Electronic Applications, Inc.

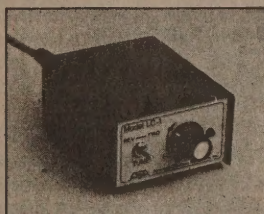
2006-196th St. SW/P.O. Box 2160 Lynnwood, WA 98036 206-775-7373

Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation. Dealer Inquiries Invited. Copyright 1990. Stand optional.

July 1990, FLORIDA SKIP / 5



IsoLoop precision stepper motor provides accurate tuning.



IsoLoop LC-1 control box with variable speed tuning.

ARE WE DRIFTING?

Part Two of Two

By Joe Scungio, N4KUF

Traffic nets have a set time and frequency to meet. Stations wishing to participate, try to be ready at those times. The ARRL Operating Manual states that good operating is being on time for net sessions.

The net holds a session and the NCS sends a recap to the Net Manager. This recap tells the Net Manager, S.M. and ARRL the amount of time the net was in session, traffic sent and stations who checked in during the net session. Our S.M. states that it is the accepted practice that these stats reflect only what happened during that NTS session. To do otherwise would present an inaccurate picture of what transpired, only during that net session.

The ARRL Operating Manual supports this opinion:

Therefore, the counting of traffic or QNI's before or after the "official" net session, appears to be an incorrect practice. If we all decided to check in to our favorite nets at our own best times, we'd probably end up with two-hour net sessions.

Because of the demand for frequencies by all amateurs, nets are supposed to get done as quickly as possible. A net has no more right to a frequency than an individual station holding a QSO. We may explain and politely ask them to move, but they don't have to. Because a net has been using the frequency for 40 years doesn't mean they own it.

Quite often we begin to deviate from established procedures and after a while, these procedures become our standards and because "we" have been doing it for a while, we begin to accept our methods as being correct procedure.

If we allow stations to check in early or late and count them in our stats, aren't we really presenting an inaccurate picture of our net sessions, violating good operating rules and thereby promoting poor operating practices? We surely want new traffic handlers to be on time and practice correct operating procedures.

Some phone nets have warm-ups which sounds like a good idea. However, we must be aware that they can cause difficulties. The warm-up can be a real benefit. It can be used to get the net ready for the net sessions, take care of other net business, informal exchanges, promote camaraderie, etc.

Our S.M. states that we must be careful that these warm-ups do not actually become formal sessions. In this situation, all or most of the traffic, may be already sent/received, stations have come and gone, and by the time the net is "officially" called hardly anyone is around.

I've heard an NCS call a net at the appointed time and because all traffic had been listed and sent, the NCS went immediately to the roster. A station came up, said he had traffic and asked if he was late. The NCS finally took the traffic listing, but no one was around to take it, so the station had to QTA it.

Warm-ups seem to be a phone net phenomenon, as I've not heard it on C.W. nets. I guess it's easier to talk fast then to send fast. Hi!

The ARRL Operating Manual states that traffic nets should expedite traffic and keep net sessions as short as possible. In order to do this, the NCS should call for traffic at the start of the net and as soon as a receiving station is available for any listed traffic, they should be sent off frequency.

The manual goes on to state that it is not a good practice to have all stations check in before the routing of traffic commences. Stations want to get in and out. If they are not needed, they should be let go. That's another reason to be on time. Stations with traffic checking in late, cause longer net sessions, unnecessary routing of traffic and boredom, for stations waiting around. We also promote boredom when we hold net sessions unnecessarily while traffic is passed or accepted by an NCS on the net frequency.

There are exceptions (i.e., when the net liaison stations are late due to heavy traffic, NTS net delays, etc.). The NCS uses good judgment. Most of the time it makes no sense to have liaison stations list traffic then wait while 10 to 20 stations check in. Our S.M. told me that he usually tries to be one of the first to check in when he has traffic. If he doesn't have traffic he tries to check in after it appears that all stations with traffic have called.

How does he know when to transmit? Experience obtained from a lot of listening. learning the nets operating procedure, being on time and staying alert. If there is listed traffic that he can assist with, he tries to check in as soon as possible, after traffic listings appear to be completed. This allows the NCS to quickly decide how to expedite the traffic.

I feel that this method is an excellent way to operate. Use of this method allows him to anticipate the needs of the NCS and make the NCS's job easier. More important, it facilitates the rapid routing of traffic, increases net efficiency and contributes to the shortening of net sessions.

This one station's contribution to net efficiency, when taken individually, may be small. However, when emulated by many stations net efficiency will significantly increase.

Most of us probably don't advocate nor want a "Captain Bligh" net. However, I think we ought to always be mindful how amazing it is that what appears to be seemingly unimportant deviations from good operating practice can and often does, promote unnecessary delays thereby reducing net efficiency.

TRUE OR FALSE?

In the mid-'30's all broadcast stations were ordered to monitor the International Distress Frequency, 500 K.C., at 15 and 45 past each hour for three minutes. And if they heard an "SOS" they were to close down the broadcast stations for the duration of the emergency. True or false? — A.C.

NORTH FLORIDA PHONE NET

By Jerry, K4UBR

The conditions of the summer season came on with a vengeance during May and many nights saw the beleaguered NCS and net members with many relays and assists to move the few pieces of traffic handled. I must compliment the net for their demonstration of ability getting the traffic moved. That is traffic handling at its best, when conditions are at their worst.

The order for Net Certificates has arrived, so I will be preparing a large number of them for mailing out to the many well-qualified and deserving net members. This is one way that NTS recognizes the support given by individuals and you can display the certificate proudly in your shack. Only those who have been involved in traffic handling over a period of time can really appreciate the true significance of the Net Certificates.

Our net control roster has gained a new alternate NCS in John, KC4KWN who has volunteered to assist where his schedule permits. His first session as NCS proved that the net has found another good net controller, who, coupled with a very potent signal from a new Loop antenna, will be heard throughout the section in the coming months. Thanks John!

Not yet ready, but working in the wings, to join the alternate NCS roster are N4YWC, Debbie and WB2CKM, Steve as soon as they can get the antenna situation improved. A long-time net member Nils, WA4NDA is also preparing his station to assume a spot on the NCS roster.

Representation from and to other nets has improved somewhat, but it is improving and that is encouraging. TPTN peaked out 100 percent for May, FAST 96 percent, QFN 96 percent, LSTTN 90 percent, SVTN 87 percent and GCVTN up to 64 percent, for an overall improvement from last month.

I will be implementing some changes in NFPN procedures in the coming months to put the net into compliance with the NTS Section Net plan and it will be an easy task if all net members will keep in mind that the purpose of the net is to provide communications into, within and out of the North Florida Section through established, well-planned liaison with the rest of the NTS system.

Your cooperation with the NCS and your offers of assistance will be greatly appreciated along with your suggestions. Please direct these comments to me in a QSO, message form or by phone, any time at (904) 282-3775.

NET CONTROL ROSTER FOR JUNE OF '90

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
KC4MDY	K4EBO	WD4PPG	N4VSP	KA4HHE	URCALL	K4UBR
Paul	Lucky	Theo	Steve	Dot	You?	Jerry
Alternates					W7YWF	
KC4KWN					Howard	
John						

Statistics for May 1990 as reported to the Section Manager:

Net	QNI	Average	QTC	Average	Sessions	QNI/QTC
NFPN	2,217	71.5	141	4.5	31	0.06

Net procedure reminder: direct all comments to the NCS while the net is in session unless otherwise directed by the NCS. Offer assistance to the NCS only when requested.

Red Cross Committee Meets in Dayton

The American National Red Cross Advisory Committee on Communications met recently in Dayton, Ohio, in connection with the HamVention. ARRL is represented on this committee by Steve Ewald, WA4CMS, Assistant Public Service Manager in the Field Services Department. ARRL's objective is to foster close ties between the Red Cross and Amateur Radio.

A Red Cross Forum was held at the convention site on Saturday, April 28. Mike Riley, KX1B, Red Cross Disaster Communications Associate served as forum moderator and steered discussions around the many things learned and experienced during the trying disasters from the fall of 1989. Hurricane Hugo and the Northern California earthquake were catalysts for much of the disaster planning that is now going on.

An updated Memorandum of Understanding between the Red Cross and the ARRL is now in draft form. Discussions are underway to strengthen the content of the MOU to make it more useful to the ARRL Field Organization and local Red Cross Chapters as they plan and execute emergency and disaster-relief communications. The current Statement of Understanding was signed into effect in 1982.

An on-the-air network that meets regularly will be promoted among Red Cross chapters having Amateur Radio facilities. This net would no doubt increase inter-organizational communications, and could be one of several focus points for emergency traffic during a large-scale emergency. Frequencies and times are yet to be announced.

With a working relationship in order, it is hoped that both ARRL and Red Cross publications will be able to feature news and training information that will be beneficial to everyone involved. Additional opportunities to learn more about Amateur Radio and the Red Cross are at your local Red Cross chapter as well as at the ARRL National Convention in Kansas City this June.—Steve Ewald, WA4CMS

ARRL NEWSLETTER

SUPPORT
FLORIDA SKIP
ADVERTISERS!

**3 Year
Limited Warranty**

THE CLEAR CHOICE

Motorola Radius 2-Way

Better control of your business begins with Motorola/Radius 2-Way radios. Hip-pocket portability puts your entire operation in the palm of your hand. One push of a button and you're on-line communicating with the people working for you.

Tough-as-nails construction makes Radius 2-Ways the clear choice for the most demanding working conditions. When there's no time for downtime, these radios can help keep you up-to-date on your business.

P200

The P200 is the clear choice to keep you on top of your business. Synthesized 2 or 6 channel operation, UHF or VHF. Meets MIL SPEC 810 C/D.

P100

The best synthesized value on the market. With 2 or 6 channels, UHF or VHF, the P100 will let you know what's going down while productivity goes way up.

P50/P50 +

The P50 and P50 + are the tough talking tools no crew should be without. They will help make downtime an old war story. 1 or 2 channel operation, UHF or VHF.

Mobiles

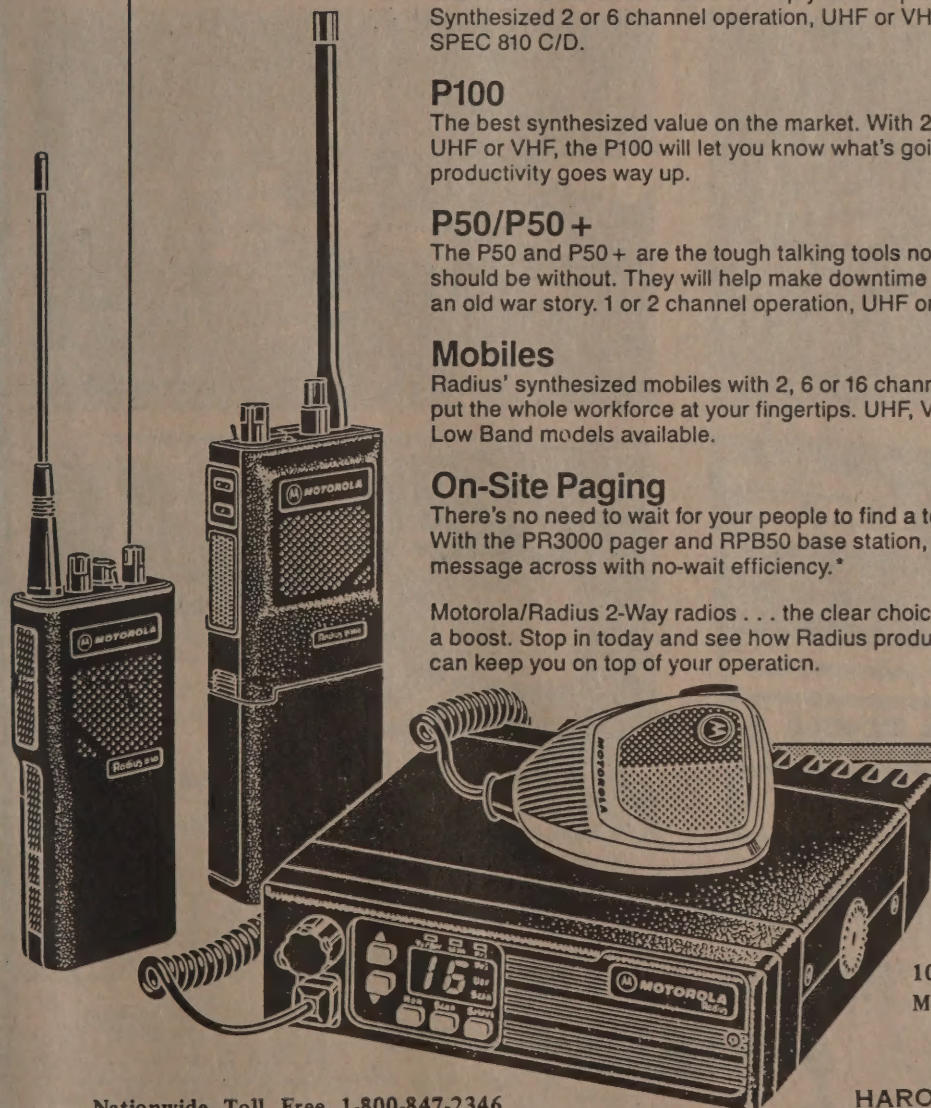
Radius' synthesized mobiles with 2, 6 or 16 channel operation put the whole workforce at your fingertips. UHF, VHF, 800 MHz or Low Band models available.

On-Site Paging

There's no need to wait for your people to find a telephone. With the PR3000 pager and RPB50 base station, you can get your message across with no-wait efficiency.*

Motorola/Radius 2-Way radios . . . the clear choice to give your business a boost. Stop in today and see how Radius products can keep you on top of your operation.

FCC License Required



Nationwide Toll Free 1-800-847-2346
In Florida (904) 672-2878.

HAROLD - KE8MR

MOTOROLA and Radius are registered trademarks of Motorola, Inc.

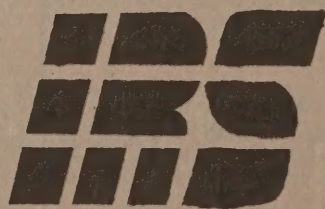
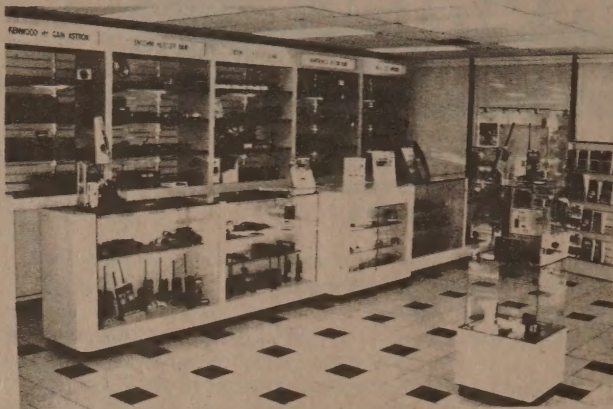
*See us for warranty details.

HAROLD HEASTER, INC.
84 NORTH TYMBER CREEK ROAD
ORMOND BEACH, FL. 32074

10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Monday-Wednesday-Friday

Radius®

A PICTURE IS WORTH 10,000 WORDS . . .



**INTERNATIONAL
RADIO
SYSTEMS**

5001 N.W. 72nd Ave., Miami, FL 33166

(305) 594-4313/4314

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:30-5:30

Sat. 9:30-2:30



	58th ST.	
Palmetto Exwy.	72nd AVE.	X
	36th ST.	50th ST.
826		↑ N
	836	
	(Miami Dairy Rd.)	

FLORIDA STATE Q.C.W.A. NEWS

Edited by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

President Emeritus Leland Smith, W5KL established QCWA's President's Award to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the amateur radio service and QCWA.

Smith's (1989) recipient for this honor is Walt Maxwell, W2DU acknowledged for his practical antenna theory and design. Walt has written many articles entitled "Reflections" which appeared in QST and they are now available in book form from the ARRL.

Southern West Virginia Chapter 97 is back in operation again and they hold the initial reactivation meeting in South Charleston. They are looking for many more members.

The most recent chapter is the Golden Triangle Chapter 173 and will serve members in the Lake County, Florida community.

Harold Beaver, W0LYB who organized the Colorado Chapter 58 in 1971 is credited with repeating that service 19 years later for chartering of the new chapter which boasts 15 members.

All systems go in Kansas City, October 12th and 13th, QCWA's convention dates for 1990. The hosts Mid-Continent Chapter 35 guarantees delegates will be pleasantly surprised. General Chairman Bill McGrannahan, K0ORB and Co-Chairman Bill Cramner, W0ZL, have been working two years to make this event QCWA's biggest and best ever. QCWA members all over the country are urged to attend.

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER

Sinere sympathy to K8RIF and W4OFT on the loss of family members.

Chapter member W3WPY and candidate for QCWA director, checks into our Thursday net on 14245 KHz 12:30 p.m. with a good signal from his new Sommer beam antenna. W4TIC always checks into the state QCWA net on Saturday at 8 a.m. on 3955 KHz.

W4SVB just returned from another cruise. WT4F is home from an extended vacation in Illinois.

W9QVA attends all hamfests and local social functions. Good to see WB4ZVD at most of the local ham functions.

W4PBL is continuing to do a good job arranging interesting bus trips.

Have a good summer.

— Reported by Jim Gundry, W4JM

PELICAN CHAPTER

Our last formal meeting of the season was held on May 16th at Stacey's Buffet in St. Petersburg. We will continue to meet on the third Wednesday of each month for the rest of the summer season.

There were 22 members and guests present. The guests were Ben Adams, K4EZ and Hazel Mandel, XYL of "silent key" Jack, W4PLW and Helen Stern, XYL of "silent key" Phil, WA4ZVO.

It was announced the passing our charter member Rex Purcell, WB4AFQ.

Art, W1PXL introduced Marilyn Littlejohn and Jeff Harring, financial consultants and they gave an illustrated talk on financial investments.

Helen Stern and Hazel Mandel was asked to affix their husband's QCWA pin to the chapter banner.

A chapter picnic or cruise was discussed to be held this summer.

It was reported that the XYL of Cress, K4YL has been in the hospital and a get well card will be sent.

A new member was welcomed and he is Charles Gramm, KB4ZB. He is formerly from Rochester, New York.

The breakfast meetings at Breakfast by Sue in St. Pete the first Wednesday of the month will continue during the summer.

Leland Smith, W5KL writes thanking us for the cards sent while he was in the hospital.

Congratulations to our National Treasurer and his lady Blanche on 50 years of married bliss.

— Reported by Paul Turner, W1DLP

GATOR CHAPTER

There were 36 members and guests at our May meeting. It will be the last official meeting of the season, however, our chapter will continue to meet the first Saturday of each month for good fellowship and scuttlebutt.

It was reported that Harry, W4DLL was in the hospital, but home and feeling much better. Lou Webber, K4HWS was home with a bad cold and his XYL, Dot had just come home from the hospital after a hip operation.

Bill, W4STX introduced our speaker, Mr. Gordon Wavrek from the Dali Museum in St. Pete. He showed slides to illustrate not only the museum and the paintings it contained, but some of the areas of Spain that was Dali's home. Bill, W4STX has given us many fine programs throughout the season.

Our net frequency has been changed to 145.29. This repeater belongs to the QCWA Pelican Chapter and we will use it every Saturday morning at 9 a.m. We thank the Clearwater Amateur Radio Society for the use of their repeater on 146.97.

— Reported by Eli Nannis, K4JMH

PALM BEACH CHAPTER

At our April 24th meeting, we had 24 members and guests at the dining room of Prosperity Oaks. Our Vice President presided over the meeting. Our chapter membership stands at 55 at the present time.

We had a very interesting and informative guest, Tim McDow, KM4EF who talked about the efforts which he and other amateurs in the area are making, to establish an ATV Repeater in the Northern Palm Beaches. The repeater and other equipment was set up at the meeting and demonstrated along with a description of its workings and what was required to get started in ATV. Tim and the group are presently engaged in the election of a tower site for the repeater. It is now operational on his tower and can be accessed in the northeastern part of the county.

Our Social Chairman for the last two or three years, Lennie Jezorek, W4LC has submitted his resignation, so we need a volunteer to take over.

Next meeting was on May 29th.

— Reported by Bob McDow, W4KOG



Wayne Cooper, KG4R, ex W6EWC, W8EWC, YN1WC, HR1WC, K4ZZV (center) accepts 50-year-ARRL-Award from Evelyn Gauzens W4WYR, ARRL Vice Dir. S.E. Div. (also QCWA member) Recently at a SE Chapter 12 dinner meeting. Wife Cathy (L) looks on. Wayne has written numerous articles in QST. Look for his QST hint & Kinks in July issue. He was one of first to use SSB as YN1WC on 3999. He was first licensed in 1931 Congratulations OM! (Photo by W4JXA)

SUNCOAST CHAPTER

Our chapter held their last meeting of the season on April 3rd at the House of Chong in Sarasota. There were 55 members and guests present.

Bill, W8MBB was reported not being at all well and will probably be going to a nursing home.

We welcomed a new member Dale Herrol, KJ4AY attending his first meeting.

Our chapter will be staying with our present place for another season. It was agreed to hold our informal luncheon meetings during the summer, the first Wednesday of the month at the Sarasota Trolley Station.

The Nominating Committee reported the following: President, Corby Pratt, K2WV; Vice President, Joe McConville, WD4MFA; Secretary, John Karban, W3IGC; Treasurer, Larry Pearsall, W0FDY. Since there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that nominations be closed.

President Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF passed the brass gavel symbol of office to President Corby Pratt, K2WV.

John, W4ACE introduced Eric Hogberg, W4TAH. He is an official intermediary between the amateurs and FCC. His subject was "We are Hear" for the Radio Amateurs." He gave an informative presentation on the troubles on the amateur bands such as illegal phone patches, jamming, deliberate interference and foul language. He asked for volunteers to help him in his endeavors to improve conditions.

— Reported by Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE SEALING A LETTER TO INSPIRE A FRESH THOUGHT. via W4ZZG.

25 Years a Ham?



- Preserves and promotes Amateur Radio
- Awards & recognition for members
 - Over 160 local chapters
 - CW and SSB nets • QSO parties
 - Over \$4,000.00 awarded annually in youth scholarships

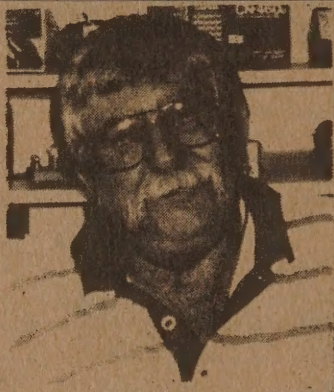
You owe yourself the privilege of QCWA affiliation

40th Anniversary

Quarter Century Wireless Assoc.
1406 Cooper Dr. • Irving, TX 75061

ELI'S AMATEUR RADIO

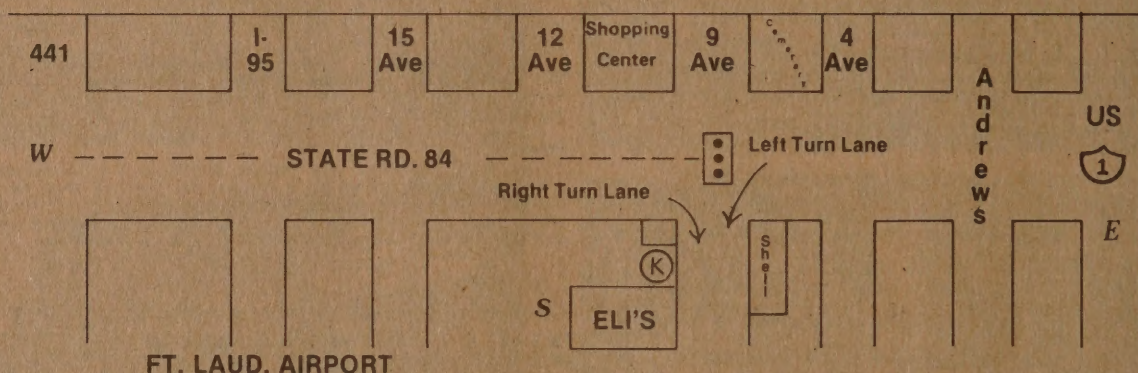
2513 S.W. 9th AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33315



OPEN

**7 DAYS
A WEEK**

COME SEE OUR
NEW & LARGER STORE



**"THE LATEST IN NAME BRAND
HAM EQUIPMENT"**

VISIT OUR USED GEAR DEPT.

EQUIPMENT SOLD ON CONSIGNMENT

**LARGEST SELECTION OF BOOKS &
PERIODICALS IN SOUTH FLORIDA!!!**

305
525-0103

BROWARD

305
944-3383

FAX **DADE** FAX

AMERICAN EXPRESS - MASTERCARD & VISA

"SE HABLA ESPAÑOL"



15th ANNUAL A.R.R.L.
SUNCOAST
AMATEUR RADIO & COMPUTER
CONVENTION

November 17 & 18, 1990

CURTIS HIXON CONVENTION CENTER — TAMPA FLORIDA

"SAREX '90 — THE WHOLE STORY"
by Roy Neal, K6DUE

Talk-In On 147.105 Repeater

Manufacturers

Dealers

Forums

Swap Tables

(Set-Up Fri 2-8PM)
(Sat 7AM, Sun 7:30AM)

Amateur Testing

(Sat 10AM, Sun 10AM)

Craft Corner

Ladies Activities

Dinner Dance

Major and Hourly Prizes — Saturday and Sunday

Host Hotel Ramada Airport 1-800-228-2828 (Ask for convention rates)

For Commercial Booth Information Contact
Randy N4SBC, FGCARC, P.O. Box 7931, Clearwater, FL 34618

FGCARC — Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council

1556-56th Avenue North

St Petersburg, Florida 33703

Please send me:

_____ General Admission Tickets (\$6.00 at the door) @ \$ 5.00/ea = \$ _____

_____ Swap Table Tickets (both days) @ \$15.00/ea = \$ _____

_____ Dinner/Dance Tickets @ \$20.00/ea = \$ _____

Mail to: _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Note: Swap Table Admissions also require a General Admission Ticket.)



FLORIDA ARMY M.A.R.S. NEWS

By Bob Watson, AAR4QH

The main event of this report is about the Florida State-Wide MARS (Army MARS) Picnic at Moss Park, Orlando, Florida. It was supposed to be a state-wide Tri-MARS, meeting with the USN and the USAF MARS being invited. I don't think any of them attended.

I would guess about 30 people attended with wives and children, on May 26th, Saturday, all day.

The meeting started off by everyone having a plate (or two) of good food, with dessert.

Mr. Bert Flow, Florida SMD had his bullhorn, loudspeaker and his VCS Camcorder. He welcomed all including the former SMD Mr. Elmer Kusluch, AAR4NP. He took some VHS pictures of all present. Each member approached the camera, give his name, call, location, etc.

AAR4QH, Bob Watson discussed his notes from the Seventh Annual Army MARS Convention, four days prior to the Dayton Hamvention, in an effort to brief everyone on what was said and done during the four days of meeting. I regret the cassette (eight hours), were covered with too much background noise, to present them to the members present. Many questions were asked and answered.

It was stated at the convention that the primary purpose was to rewrite the F.M. Manual. It was also stated at the convention that the present monthly Participation Report would be changed and the amount of information being required would be greatly reduced.

The Florida State "Small Parts" Officer handed out many small packages of miscellaneous parts. AAR4QH also delivered to him numerous low-voltage capacitors for rebuilding power supplies. Mr. Jim Hamilton, AAR4RD, ASMD passed out numerous pieces of cable to be used by those desiring same.

I received a report from AAV4TN, Leo Bloom concerning the 1,450 logged phone patches he has completed since he became a "Phone Patch Station," for Army MARS. He also sent me a copy of a letter he received from Mary Humphreys thanking him and Army MARS for phone patches from Honduras.

It is hoped that all Army MARS members had an opportunity to read the article written by Mr. Tom Moore, EAMD and

reported by the A.P. to many newspapers throughout the USA. The article said: "Radio Message From MARS? Just U.S. Soldiers Saying, 'Hi, Mom.'" The SMD, Bert has requested that anyone having a copy of this article mail it to him for forwarding to EAMD, etc.

We have a number of MARS members who should be nominated for a: "Certificate of Appreciation" from CH Army MARS, for there untiring efforts and devotion to the MARS programs. The SMD has said that he would be glad to forward any and all that were submitted to him for approval and issuance. We all know who they are.

I had hoped to give better and more details of the MARS Convention, but time, space and numerous other commitments prevented this.

Better stop before I run out of space and paper and to get this in the mail to Florida Skip.

AAR4QH has issued six sets of membership forms to new hams in this area.

— 73 to all . . .

U.S.A.F. M.A.R.S.

By Guice W. Johnson, WA4LHO/AFA2SB

The thunderstorm season is here and the lightning strikes do not discriminate between MARS Stations and any other electronic equipment. Protect yourself and your equipment.

There are many theories about the best way to protect your equipment, some are better than others. I thought I had the best protection program. I had a chance to prove it last summer. My idea is if there is no path there is no damage. In other words, disconnect everything. Unplug the A/C lines from the wall, disconnect all antenna cables from the equipment (there are some that say you should connect these cables to ground) and above all, disconnect the rotor control. I have even installed Cinch-Jones quick disconnects on the rotor cables.

The proof that the best laid plans, etc. I did everything that I outlined above except that I missed one of the rotor cables. We had two strikes on the same tower within two minutes. The charge came down the rotor cable through the control head rubber foot onto the case of the J.W. Miller automatic tuner to the ground strap and killed everything between the control box and the ground rods outside.

When the smoke cleared the dead and wounded included one Icom 751, one Kenwood TS 440-S/AT, one Kam, one C-64, one C-128, two 1541 disk drives, one Azden PCS-3000, one Azden PSC-500, one rotor and control head and other sundry small stuff. This amounted to a total of \$5,665.00. Fortunately, I have a good insurance carrier that covered my loss 100 percent.

The moral to all of this? Make a checklist and follow it. Remember: if there is no path there is no flow. I learned my lesson. I hope yours isn't so costly.

KANTRONICS

R.F. Concepts and Kantronics have announced a new dual-band amplifier, the RFC 2-70, which provides 30 watts of output on two meters, and 25 watts on 440 MHz with only five watts drive.

Perfect for use with your dual-band handie-talkie, it features automatic band switching and dual GaAsFET pre-amps for optimum performance on both bands.

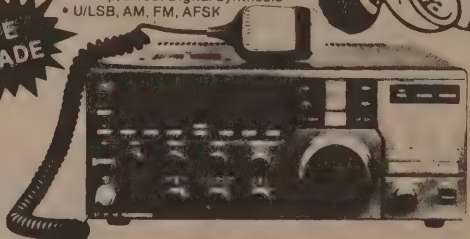
BUY—SELL—TRADE
All brands new and reconditioned.

JRC SPECIAL SALE PRICES

- All Modular Construction
- 150 W Output
- General Coverage Receiver
- 1 Chip, Direct Digital Synthesis
- U/LSB, AM, FM, AFSK

WE TRADE





JRC JST-135
HF Transceiver

BW **Mosley** **NEW!**

N4EDQ
Amateur Radio Sales & Service
4400 Hwy. 19-A
Mount Dora, FL 32757



For the best buys in town call:
904-589-0222

AZDEN
DEALER
ORDERS ONLY **1-800-828-6433**

MAXCOM®
AUTOMATIC ANTENNA MATCHER

The ultimate advanced technology —
when you need it most.

**P.O. Box 502
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33302
(305) 523-6369**

Call Sonny

THE BOTTOM LINE: "MAXCOM®WORKS"

NORTHWEST FLORIDA NEWS

By Bob Watson, W4DTV

In the early morning hours of June 25th, the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department called WB4CDR, Ey and requested radio amateur assistance with communications and to assist in the hunt for an 81-year-old woman, who with her companion stopped for gas near Holt, Florida. It seems that her companion had an accident of some sort and was sent to the hospital. In the meantime, the 81-year-old woman wandered off in the dark.

WB4CDR, Ey; K4LPT, Stan; W4ZGS, Til; WB5LYV, Ron; KA4KMP, Chas; and KA0ZMQ, Clyde, joined in the search.

Near 10 a.m., Stan, K4LPT found the woman in a sand/clay pit hollering: "Where have you been? I have been calling you." Stan returned her to the Sheriff. This woman and man thought they were still in Jackson County, Mississippi.

The Okaloosa Walton C.C. finished their novice classes; 10 out of 16 got their novice licenses. Some have already upgraded to technician and to general. The college has already scheduled these classes to begin again in September. Four other persons have passed their novice tests.

I have been informed that the State RACES Net is being closed and their time, days and frequency will be under the ARES Program.

The local EOC is planning on holding a special drill on June 6th for the hurricane season in Okaloosa County.

The NOARC Crestview is planning on holding their Annual Field Day Exercise in June and the site will be at the Baker Community Center, which is about two miles south of Baker on State Route 4. It is planned to get the many new novices in this area to participate and learn that ham radio does other things beside DXing, WAS, WAC, etc.

The TCARC held their Annual Picnic-in-the-Park in Valparaiso. It was attended by about 15 people. One took his novice test and passed and a blind XYL passed her code test with her special typewriter.

I am looking forward to the big FCC/VEC Convention on June 15th in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Roy, N4ADI will be there with me as part of the CAVEC group.

The PARC Ft. Walton Beach, will hold their scheduled FCC exams June 16th at their clubhouse. Walk-ins accepted. Doors close at 0830.

WB4ORK, Bill had lightning hit his station and did a lot of damage to his ham equipment and a few other things around the house on June 3rd.

Will close at this time with this thought for the day: "Confidence is the feeling you had before you knew better." — 73 to all

CYCLE — 22

The 11-year sunspot cycle is gearing up for a predicted peak in December 1989. Researchers predict it will be one of the most violent in 250 years.

According to researchers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the intensity of sunspot activity is expected to increase between now and next December. NOAA reports the average number of solar flares (51.3 per month over a 13-month period) is greater than that observed in a similar period in 1957 (40.7), previously the strongest sunspot cycle ever recorded.

NOAA researchers predict that the present cycle will peak close to 200 sunspots per month. Massive magnetic storms on the sun, which have played havoc with radio communications and electric power transmission, are expected to continue throughout this period.

— (Martin Co. ARC)

MAILING LABEL READ THE TOP LINE

Your address (the top line) shows your Skip expiration date. If we don't receive your renewal fee by the 18th of that month the computer automatically kicks your address out on the next mailing and you will not receive any future issues.

We can't afford to send back issues. It cost us about 85¢ to send one copy (copy, postage and handling). So please send your renewals promptly.



The Tampa A R C (W4DUG) participated in the Sun-Coast Girl Scout Council's "Great Western Extravaganza" last April. To acquaint the girls with Amateur Radio & to send radiograms, 117 messages were sent via CW, RTTY & packet. Ten members manned the rigs. Here (L to R) WD4HHA, KM4FP, K4EUK, KB4FBX, WA4CJG, (hiding with hat). Photo by Nancy Van Aken and submitted by K4EUK. Nice going gang ! !

HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE

The hurricane season started on June 1st. We tend to get lax during the off-season and before we know it, the time is again at hand, to look at all those things that go with hurricane season.

We must remember to start "unplugging" again. How are your emergency supplies? Check on flashlight batteries, canned goods enough to last about two weeks, plastic gallon bottles to store drinking water in, a couple large containers for washing dishes, ourselves and for toilet use would be nice also.

Check on the antennas. High winds can tear them up. Think about emergency antenna and power for the shack . . . you know what to do, you've done it before.

Here are the names of the hurricanes for 1990-91 season: Arthur, Bertha, Cesar, Diana, Edouard, Fran, Gustav, Hortense, Isidore, Josephine, Klaus, Lili, Marco, Nana, Omar, Paloma, Rene, Sally, Teddy, Vicky and Wilfred.

ICOM, KENWOOD, YAESU, Drake, Collins & Heath Owners: International Radio & Computers Inc. & Fox Tango 8 Pole & 10 Pole Crystal Filters. Ask yourself these questions! Are you continually being interfered with during QSO? You can't seem to pull out a weak signal in the QRM? Yes, to either, purchase our SSB or CW filter! Monthly ICOM, Kenwood & Yaesu separate newsletters. 10 to 13 years of back issues. Send \$5.95 SASE for free 16 page catalog to International Radio & Computers Inc., 751 S. Macdowell Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34903.

INTERNATIONAL
RADIO
and
COMPUTERS, INC.

"OUR 11th YEAR" (407) 879-6868

ALUMA TOWERS

**CRANK-UPS • TELESCOPICS • FIXED BASE
ROOF-TOP • TRUCK • MOBIL VAN • TRAILERS**

ALL ALUMINUM TOWERS

FOR ALL TYPES OF COMMUNICATIONS

ROOF MOUNT

MOBILE TRAILER TYPE

MOBILE TRUCK TYPE

FIXED BASE TYPE

MOBILE VAN TYPE

ALUMA TOWER COMPANY
BOX 2806 FS
VERO BEACH, FL 32961-2806
(407) 567-3423 FAX 407-567-3432

THE New PCS-6000

**BOLDLY GOES WHERE NO OTHER
TRANSCEIVER HAS GONE BEFORE!!**

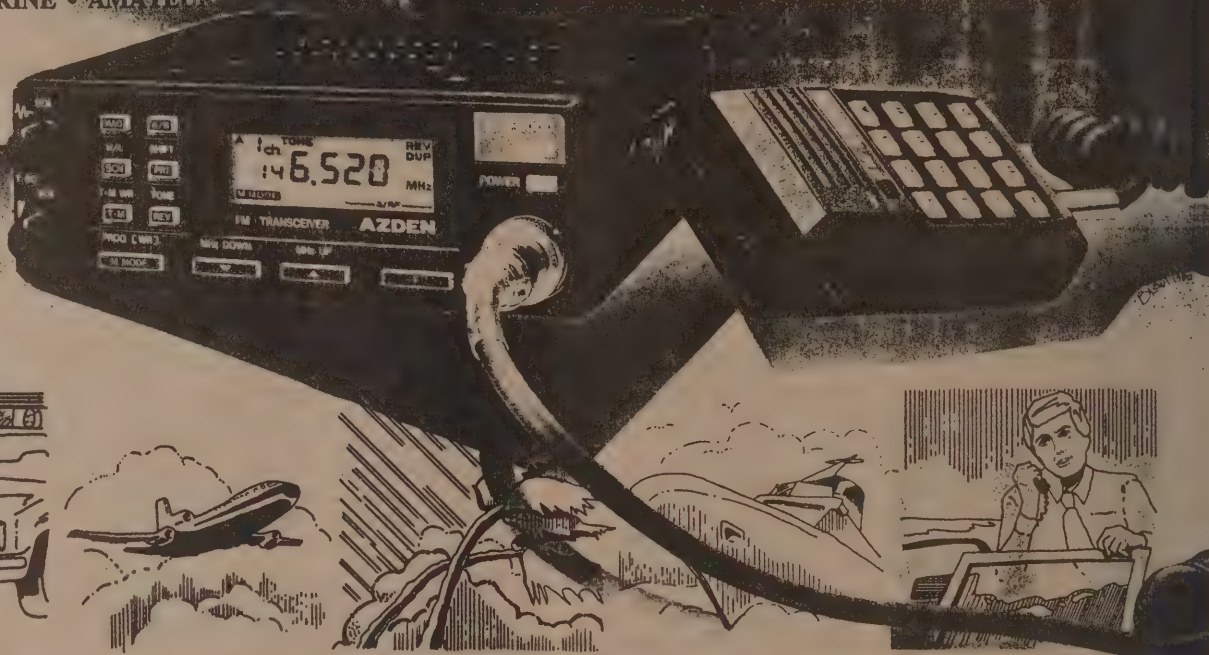
AZDEN

RECEIVE 135.995 MHZ

- AM AIRCRAFT • PUBLIC SERVICE
- NOAA • MARINE • AMATEUR

Special Sale

SALE!



LISTEN TO YOUR VISITORS FLIGHT ARRIVE AT THE AIRPORT, TO NOAA WEATHER, AND TO PUBLIC SERVICE, POLICE, FIRE, FORESTRY AND MARINE FREQUENCIES

MODELS: PCS-6000H 50 WATTS!! Also coming soon PCS-6200 220MHZ, PCS-6300 70CM and PC-10 10 Meter FM Handheld. CMOS AND ADVANCED SURFACE MOUNT TECHNOLOGY PROVIDE UNPRECEDENTED COMMERCIAL QUALITY AND RELIABILITY.

UNPRECEDENTED WIDE FREQUENCY COVERAGE: The PCS-6000 receives 118.00 to 135.995 MHZ AM Aircraft/136-173.995 MHZ FM and transmits 140.100 to 150.000 MHZ. Modifiable to ALL MARS and CAP frequencies (proof of authorization/license required)

TINY SIZE: Only 2 inches high, 5 1/2 inches wide and 7 1/4 inches deep!! Easily fits anywhere, even in the smallest car!

20 CHANNEL MEMORY IN TWO BANKS PLUS 1 TEMPORARY CHANNEL (TM): Two memory banks, A and B have 10 memory channels each. The memories store frequency, shift width, offset information, and PL tone frequency as programmed. An extra memory channel (that we call TM-temporary memory) is provided to allow you to store any operating condition instantly again and again!!

UP TO 21 NONSTANDARD SPLITS: Program any split in any channel.

VERSATILE SCANNING FUNCTIONS: Dual memory scan, programmable band scanning, hold scan and delay scan functions are provided, with selectable delay time. ALL memory channels are tunable independently.

PRIORITY CHANNEL MONITORING: Memory Channel B0 (the first channel in memory bank B) is monitored every four seconds regardless of any operating condition. When a signal is received, a beep is heard.

DISCRIMINATOR CENTERING (AZDEN EXCLUSIVE PATENT): Always stops on frequency desired when scanning.

PROGRAMMABLE FREQUENCY STEPS: In memory, frequency steps can be set at 5KHZ to 20KHZ in any increment.

BUILT-IN PROGRAMMABLE TONE ENCODER: 57 different tones are built in for EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR:

Amateur-Wholesale Electronics

1040 Industrial Drive, Box 224, Watkinsville, Georgia 30677

Repair Service: (404) 769-8706—2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

MANUFACTURER: JAPAN PIEZO CO., LTD.

instant programming of PL tones into memory channels and microcomputer. Tone frequency can be entered independently in RX and TX. A tone decoder is available as an option.

LITHIUM BATTERY BACKUP: Memory information can be stored for up to 5 years even if power is removed.

FREQUENCY REVERSE: Allows you to listen to repeater input frequency.

FEATHER-TOUCH TUNING CONTROL KEYBOARD: The LED backlit light touch keyboard performs all tuning operations simply by pushing the key(s) and key actuation is audibly verified.

LARGE LCD (LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY): The LCD display shows the operating frequency, S/R/F, memory channel in use and various other operating functions. The LCD is back-lighted by green LEDs, making it possible for you to read the display even in total darkness.

FULL 16 KEY TOUCHTONE PAD MICROPHONE: DTMF Microphone functions as auto-patch when transmitting.

DIGITAL S/R/F METER: Shows incoming signal strength and relative transmitter power.

MICROPHONE CONTROLS: Up/Down memory and frequency control.

TRUE FM, NOT PHASE MODULATION: Unsurpassed intelligibility and audio fidelity. High/Low Power: 25W/45W or 5W/10W (6000/6000H). Output-Fully adjustable.

SUPERIOR RECEIVER: Sensitivity is better than 0.15 Microvolt for 20-DB quieting. Commercial-Grade design assures optimum dynamic range and noise suppression.

AUDIO OUTPUT: 2 Watts or more.

SPECIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

OTHER FEATURES: Rugged dynamic touchtone DTMF microphone, built-in speaker, mobile mounting bracket, remote speaker jack, and all cords, plugs, fuses and hardware are included.

WARRANTY: 1 YEAR LIMITED.

FOR YOUR NEAREST DEALER OR TO ORDER:

TOLL FREE 1-800-451-2397

Telephone (404) 769-8706

FAX (404) 769-7970 (7pm-10am)

Telex: 4930709 ITT

Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Mon.-Fri.



ICOM

SPRING SAVINGS

<u>MODEL</u>		<u>REG.</u>	<u>SALE*</u>
IC-735	HF-TRANSCEIVER/GEN. COVERAGE RECVR	\$1099	\$930
AH-2A	MARINE/CAR ANT. TUNER/AUTO-COUPLER	559	459
IC-725	HF-TRANSCEIVER/GEN. COVERAGE RECVR	949	785
AH-3	MARINE/CAR ANT. TUNER/AUTO-COUPLER	489	368
IC-2400	DUAL BAND 2MTR/UHF 45/35WATT	899	687
IC-901	MULTIBAND MOBILE W/2MTR/UHF INCL.	1199	919
UX-39A	220MHz ADD-ON 25WATT UNIT	349	249
IC-228A	2METER 25WATT MOBILE MEM/SCAN/TONE	509	363
~~IC-28H~~	~~2METER 45WATT MOBILE MEM/SCAN/TONE~~	~~499~~	~~374~~
IC-228H	2METER 45WATT MOBILE MEM/SCAN/TONE	539	417
IC-02AT	2METER 5WATT HT 10MEM/SCAN/TONE	409	335

*Prices subject to availability and change without notice.

FREE FRESH BREWED COFFEE ALL DAY. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.



Mike's Electronics
 1001 NW 52 Street
 Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309
 (305)491-7110

OMAR
WABFON

STORE 404-760-8846

RON
N4UHC

OMAR ELECTRONICS, INC.
ALL YOUR AMATEUR NEEDS
3650 HWY. 138 N.E. SUITE C
LOGANVILLE, GA 30249
OFFICE 404-466-3241

MARC

LYNN
N4UHC XYL

NEMAL
ELECTRONICS
INTL., INC.

12240 NE 14th AVE.
N. MIAMI, FL 33161
(305) 893-3924

- Distributor of electronic wire, cable, connectors, shrink tubing, and cable ties.
- Design and manufacturing of custom cable assemblies.
- RF microwave and high voltage test facilities.
- Franchised distributor for Alpha, Amphenol, Belden, Cablewave, Kings, Times and Tyton.

"KNOWN FOR SERVICE"

EVELYN D. GAUZENS

W4WYR

Broker/Associate

FUTRELL COMPANY, INC. REALTORS

Office: (305) 234-4444

Dig. Beeper: 880-0835

Eves.: 642-4139



Sumter County Amateur Radio Tribe
Repeater

BUFFALO



WOLF

WB4MOY

Owned By Beverly Darbyson
443.125 / 448.125

Rt. 2 Box 431
Bushnell, Fla. 33513

GOOD STUFF CHEAP!

GSC ELECTRONICS

7715 INDUSTRIAL STREET
WEST MELBOURNE, FL 32904
(305) 727-8817 • FAX (305) 727-1546

SURPLUS ELECTRONICS

Send or Call for Free Catalogue



Electrical Boat Repairs & Maintenance
New Rewiring & Generator Service
On-Site Service & Repair Available

M & R MARINE SERVICE INC.

CHARLES A. S. MITCHELL

Marine Electrician

75 NE 150 Street
Miami, Florida 33161

(305) 947-2976

N 4 W X A
ex
KC4FHS

HIALEAH
ELECTRONICS
INC.

EXPERT ELECTRONICS DISTRIBUTORS
WHOLESALE • RETAIL • EXPORT

- Electronic Parts Specialists
- Audio-Video Accessories
- TV Antenna Systems
- Marine Antennas
- RCA Closed-Circuit TV Distributors
- Test & Design Equipment

Joe WB4WNA

514 EAST 9th STREET
HIALEAH, FL 33010
887-5936 • 885-0992

- Intercom Systems
 - TV & Computer Service Schematics
 - Digital Components
 - Complete Parts Inventory
 - Professional & Friendly Assistance
- YOUR #1 ELECTRONICS PLACE

THE CAVENDER
CORPORATION
Realtors Since 1957

ED ROLLER, K4IA
HERB PHELAN, KA4VWB
HARRY MOTTINGER, K4ZNB
FLORA CAVENDER, W4/TI2AZ

BEV CAVENDER, W4ZD & TI2BEV

Write for free real estate catalog

1349 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid FL 33852

FL WATS 1-800-673-7610 FAX: (813) 465-6996

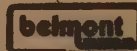
FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • INDUSTRIAL

MARK ROSNER • N4BDZ

BROKER — ASSOCIATE

(305) 921-8610

(305) 923-3333



1843 HOLLYWOOD BLVD.,
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA 33060



Florida Custom Plastics

CUSTOM ENGRAVING

KA4HWY

HARRY and JUNE KEITH

- ENGRAVED CALL AND NAME BADGES
- IDENTIFICATION PLATES
- DESK SETS AND PLASTIC SIGNS

LICENSE PLATES

PLEXIGLASS SIGNS

9900 Ulmerton Road No. 56
Large, Florida 34641

PHONE (813) 584-5121

KC4EV



DOC'S
Communications

N4ECA



702 Chickamauga Ave.
Rossville, Ga. 30741
404-864-2302 • 404-351-3510

Tested
Satellite Gear

CHOOSE NEW or USED: Receivers - VideoCiphers - IRD's
Polorotors - Ku Band - Dishes - Actuators & Accessories
HAMFEST BARGAINS ALL YEAR LONG!

Complete Service Co. 407-968-5056
3273-I Lake Worth Rd. L.W., FL 33461

GULFSIDE REALTY INVESTMENTS, INC.
Offices in NAPLES & FORT MYERS

STEVE CHAMBERLAIN-AI4R

Licensed Real Estate Broker



(813) 433-0331

HARLAN J. COHN
W4UIM

MILDRED COHN

H & M ENTERPRISES

TECHNICAL SALES • NETWORK MARKETING
AMWAY PRODUCTS — SERVICES
MCI — LONG DISTANCE ANSWERING
AMVOX — COMPUTER ANSWERING SERVICE
ALARM SYSTEMS — HOME ORDERING SERVICE

(305) 770-6682

GROLIER PUBLICATIONS



RUSS PATE
Telephone Collector

Buy - Sell - Trade
Antique and Unusual Telephones
Spring-Supported Microphones
And Similar Old Gadgets
Free Appraisals - Appointment Only

407-777-1759

282 Pine Tree Drive
Indialantic, FL 32903

IRELAND TUNE-TENNA SYSTEMS, INC.

Electronic Circuit & Voltage Fed Antennas
Patents 3,474,453; 3,792,351; 4,584,587 U.S. - 860480 CAN.

FRANK E. IRELAND
Antenna Consultant & Design Engineer
Inventor & Patent Holder

K4UVO
FCC LIC.
SHIP RADAR

144-162 Mhz no tuning full 9 dBd gain. Two piece
Portable/fixed. Light weight. Guaranteed 10 years.
\$189.00 Retail - UPS Shippable. More info call

(305) 264-4448 (305) 633-8185

5101 B N.W. 36th Avenue Miami, FL 33142



SOUTHERN
TECHNOLOGIES
AMATEUR
RADIO

AZDEN SERVICE - COMMODORE
COMPUTER REPAIR - SATELLITE
TVRO SYSTEMS - SALES & SERVICE

• BOB FORMAN/N4CRP

10715 S.W. 190 St. #9 • Miami, FL 33157 • 238-3327

NEW 440 MHZ REPEATER MAP

After much delay and hard work, Florida Skip now has a 440 MHz MAP listing all Repeaters in Florida! The map editor, Harlin Cohn, W4UIM in Miami did a very nice job on this map. It is much like our 2 Meter Map except it is printed on light green paper. You will be amazed at the number of 440 Repeaters Florida now has! I was! The price is the same as our 2 Meter Map, 25 cents each with your self-addressed stamped envelope. (Don't forget the stamp!) To: 440 Map, Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266. (Note: The 2 and 440 Maps will go in one envelope for 22 cents postage.)

SHUTTLE AMATEUR RADIO EXPERIMENT
S.A.R.E.X.

By Walt, W4DWN, AMSAT

Please note!! The flight time indicated in a previous Skip did not pan out due to problems. The new launch times set are for May 9, 1990 for STS-35 and November 1, 1990 for STS-37.

First of all let's start with the orbital inclination. The inclination chosen for STS-35 is 28.5 degrees. This means the ground track of the shuttle will never go north of plus 28.5 or south of minus 28.5 degrees in latitude.

Why? A 90-degree launch was needed to boost the shuttle into orbit. Launching east the velocity of the earth's rotation is added to rocket thrust allowing a safety margin for a heavily loaded shuttle.

The primary payload will be known as ASTRO-1. It consists of four astronomical telescopes which will be used to conduct observations in the ultraviolet and x-ray portions of the spectrum. Also, there will be a night launch. This will cause the shuttle passes to be crossing the United States late evenings to early mornings. Hopefully, STS-37 will have better conditions.

On the bright side there will be a QSO Robot on board the shuttle. It has two main functions: an automatic QSO machine capable of making "legal" contacts under computer control. And two, beacons which tell who has been worked and heard and send information on shuttle activities. The goal of the robot is to provide an automated operation which can proceed without much human intervention.

The codfish lays a million eggs
And the faithful hen but one;
And yet the chicken cackles
To show what she has done.
So we despise the codfish,
While the faithful hen we prize.
Which only goes to show
"It pays to advertise."

— (via W4DZA)

USE OUR HAMBAR SECTION!

Compliments Of
THE PALMETTO
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB

FLORIDA GULF COAST AMATEUR RADIO COUNCIL, INC.
1st ARRL Affiliated Council



ANNUAL SUNCOAST
CONVENTION

3rd Weekend in November

FGCARC • P.O. BOX 157 • CLEARWATER, FL 34617



VENECOM, INC.

REPAIRS HF — VHF — CB

4803 S.W. 71 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33155

(305) 669-9031
(305) 669-9032

F.C.C. INFORMATION PAGE

FORT MYERS

The Fort Myers ARRL-VE group will hold a test session Fri. May 18 at 7 PM. The test site: Hughes Snell & Co. 1470 Royal Palm Sq. Blvd., Ft. Myers. Registration is required. The 610 form, a copy of license & and upgrade certificate and check for \$4.95 payable to the ARRL/VEC must be sent to: Robert Strathy, WV4F, 5428 Brandy Cir., Ft. Myers, FL 33919-2237. For info: 813 481-4880

BROWARD COUNTY

CAVEC exams by Racal-Milgo in Sunrise twice per month on the first Saturday at 8:45 a.m. and on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at 1601 North Harrison Parkway (Northwest 136th Avenue).

No pre-registration required. Bring with you your original license, a photocopy of that license, the original of any credit certificates and a piece of photographic identification (driver's license okay). There is a fee of \$2.00 except novice, which is free.

Talk-in on 145.27 and 224.84 repeaters.

For further information call Chip Allen, AK4Y (home) 476-8761 or (work) 476-4763; or call Joe Lowey, KF4FO (home) 434-8211 or (work) 476-4567. From Dade County, during business hours only, 592-8600. Ask for extension 4321 or 4697. For recorded information (24 hours) 476-4444.

ARRL/VEC exams by Consolidated V.E.'s of Brevard County — Room Q-22 — Florida Institute of Technology — Melbourne — 10:00 a.m. (check-in 0930) — third Saturday of every month.

No pre-registration required. Form 610 provided. Bring original and photocopy of current license.

For information contact Victor Lau, N4FUY at (407) 768-0888.

CITRUS COUNTY

License exams are scheduled for the third Saturday in the odd numbered months at 8:30 a.m. at the Citrus County Emergency Operations Center on West Southern Street in Lecanto. (West off C.R. 491, one-quarter mile north of S.R. 44.)

Reservations preferred, walk-ins accepted while supplies last. Bring original ham license and photocopy, certificates for prior exam credits if any, photo identification as driver's license, pen and pencils and \$4.95 fee.

Phone Cotton, KB9LT at (904) 344-8322 for reservations or further information.

HERNANDO COUNTY EXAMS

The Hernando Volunteer Examining Council (HERVEC) with Clover Leaf ARC and Spring Hill ARC co-sponsors are conducting monthly exams novice through extra, each third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Springfield High School in Spring Hill. The Clover Leaf Visitor's Center in Brooksville is the alternate exam site.

Walk-ins are welcome.

For information contact Paul Sauer, K4ZC at (904) 683-3167.

NORTH DADE — SOUTH BROWARD AREA

FCC exams are given on the fourth Thursday of each month by a W5YI-VEC team at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular monthly meeting of the Fellowship Amateur Radio Club at Ingall's Park in Hallandale at 735 S.W. 1st Street.

No charge for novice... all others \$4.95.

Bring the original of your license and a photocopy and positive identification.

For more information call Howard, N4EBT at 935-5214; or Norm, K4RBR at 823-5437 (evenings).

DADE CITY AREA

The East Pasco Amateur Radio Society will conduct W5YI-VEC exams, technician through extra class (novice by reservation only due to time limitation), on the third Wednesday of each month (except December) at 602 East Meridian Avenue, in the Tampa Electric Company Conference Room (two blocks east of Highway 301), Dade City, Florida at 6:30 p.m.

Bring the original and a photocopy of your current license, photo identification and \$4.75 fee.

We also conduct exams, by appointment, for those with special needs and whose schedules conflict with normal exam lessons.

Contact Ed Privette, AB4PY at (904) 583-4580; or George Mann, KJ4UW at (904) 567-6300 or (904) 567-9594.

HIALEAH

W5YI coordinated tests — novice through extra, every third Wednesday of month at 8 p.m. Due to space limitations pre-registration is encouraged. Fee is \$4.95.

Contact Ivan Prada, KP4EDL at (305) 829-0602 from 7 to 9 p.m. for more information.

DADE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINATIONS

Exams will be held at the Dade County Emergency Operations Center, 5600 S.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33173, at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month.

Walk-in exams on test available basis. Bring a photocopy of your current license, photo identification, pen and pencil and a \$4.75 check payable to ARRL/VEC. FCC Form 610 available at exam.

For further information contact Tom Sherwood, AL7HW at 255-3170 after 5:00 p.m.

OCALA/CENTRAL FLORIDA

W5YI exams are held each month (except November and December) on the last Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, 2802 N.E. 7th Street, Ocala, Florida.

All exams, novice through extra, are given on a walk-in basis. Fee is \$4.75. Novices are free. Talk-in is available on 145.130 repeater.

For information contact Jim, KA2MBE at (904) 236-0744; or Joe, KA4WJB at (904) 351-0985.

MARION COUNTY

W5YI exams — novice through extra, every second Monday at 7:00 p.m., Marion County Government Complex at the corner of Southeast Ft. King Avenue, and Southeast 25th Avenue.

Talk-in on the 146.61 K4GSO repeater, Silver Springs Radio Club, Ocala, Florida.

Contact Jim Brenner, NT4B at 237-5783; or Walt Morris, K4ELK at 245-7254 for information.

PENSACOLA

FCC exams are given the third Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Location is the cafeteria of the West Palm Florida Hospital, on North Davis Highway.

For further information contact Rick Lloyd, AA4W; or Bill Behrends, WA4YRN.

FORT MYERS A.R.C.

The Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club will hold their next V.E. program on March 16, 1990 at 7:00 p.m. The location is the Hughes Snell and Company, 1470 Royal Palm Square Boulevard, Fort Myers.

Pre-registration is required. The 610 Form, a copy of license and \$4.95 must be sent to: Egon Loeckel, N8EL, 237 S.E. 20th Court, Cape Coral, Florida 33990. For information call (813) 772-2308.

CENTRAL FLORIDA V.E. COUNCIL

Exams will be given the second Saturday of the odd numbered months at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church of Maitland. The church is located on the northwest corner of George Avenue and 17-92, one block north of Horatio Avenue in Maitland.

The dates are: May 12th, July 14th, September 8th and November 10th.

CAVEC will sponsor these tests and the cost will be \$4.00. Walk-ins accepted.

For more information call Roy Mackey, N4ADI at (407) 644-5905.

LAKE COUNTY/CENTRAL FLORIDA

FCC exams are given on the third Saturday in the odd numbered months at 9:30 a.m. The location is the Lake Amateur Radio Association Club house just west of Tavares, Florida. Go two miles west of Tavares, Florida, on Highway 441 to C.R. 473. North one mile on C.R. 473 to the Haines Creek Baptist Church. The clubhouse and 180-foot tower are behind the church.

Walk-ins permitted. Bring original ham license and photocopy, certificates for prior exam credits, positive identification and \$4.95.

Talk-in on 147.255, K4FC repeater.

Contact Paul, K3NON at (904) 343-8729; or Millie, KQ4R at (904) 343-0075.

AUBURNDALE, AREA

W5YI exams are to be held on the third Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. They will be held in the First Presbyterian Church on 410 Pilaklakaha Avenue (PK Avenue), Auburndale, Florida — between Winter Haven and Lakeland on Highway 92. Turn off 92 on Ariana Avenue, go two stop signs, turn left on PK... second building on right.

Walk-in excepted/reservations appreciated. \$4.95 fee. Tech through extra. Reservations for novice.

For information contact Bill Loop at (813) 967-5952.

WEST PASCO COUNTY

The Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring ARRL/VEC exam sessions — novice through extra — on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Location is the Adult Education Center, 1510 South Boulevard, New Port Richey.

Walk-ins accepted on a materials available basis. Pre-registration strongly advised.

Bring original and photocopy of current amateur radio license, positive identification, check for \$4.95 payable to ARRL/VEC (no fee for novice exam) and original and photocopy of any CSCE. Form 610 will be furnished. Talk-in on 146.67 (Tx-600).

For information contact Fred, AA4FG at (813) 849-1224, or Ralph, W2GLW at (813) 842-8351.

WEST PASCO COUNTY

The Suncoast Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring W5YI-VEC exam sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The exam location is the Pasco County Building, 530 Sunset Road, New Port Richey (just east of U.S. 19 one mile south of the Pithlachascotee River Bridge).

Pre-registration deadline is the Saturday preceding the exam date, thereafter, walk-ins will be accepted on a materials availability basis. Talk-in on 145.350 (Tx-600).

Remember, effective January 1st, the fee is \$4.95 for tech through extra exams.

For registration and/or information call Marv Borngraber, WC2G at (813) 938-7810.

PALM BEACH

Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council and Palm Beach Community College Amateur Radio Club are giving amateur radio license tests the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Palm Beach Community College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida, Criminal Justice Room 101, for \$4.75.

Walk-ins permitted as long as we have test materials available.

Next tests are June 17th; July 15th; August 19th; September 16th; October 14th and 15th at hamfest at South Florida Fair Grounds on State Road 80; November 18th; and December 16th.

For information call Graf Buckenmaier at (407) 582-7617.

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

January 13th, April 14th, July 14th and October 13th at 10:00 a.m. CST, 9:30 a.m. for all walk-ins — Civil Defense Building, 644 Mulberry Avenue, Panama City, Florida — Main Conference Room. No cash. Make checks payable to: ARRL/VEC. No charge for novice. All other classes will be \$4.95. For more information contact Charles Hickman, N4DPJ, 2402 West 21st Street, Panama City, Florida 32404; telephone (904) 785-0449.

DUNEDIN — TAMPA BAY AREA

W5YI-VEC coordinated amateur radio exams are conducted by the Dunedin ARC/VE testing team on the first Monday of every month. If the first Monday is a holiday, then the tests are held on the second Monday.

Testing begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Foreign Language Building, Number 99, Dunedin High School, 1615 Pinehurst Road, Dunedin.

Remember to bring with you, two forms of identification, originals and copies of your license and CSCE's if any and the \$4.95 fee required for the tech through extra exams. Talk-in on 145.110 or 145.310 (Tx-600).

For registration and/or information call WC2G at (813) 938-7810 or W8RH at (813) 535-2034. Mailing address is: P.O. Box 1851, Dunedin, Florida 34697.

TAMPA EVENING TESTING

W5YI-VEC exams will be held the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (except November and December). Sessions will be replaced by one date in early December due to holidays. (Phone for exact date during November.)

Testing location is the second floor of the American Red Cross Building, 217 North Howard Avenue, Tampa.

Novice exams are free. All others \$4.75 cash. Bring with you the original and a photocopy of your current license and original and photocopies of CSCE's, if any.

To resolve questions or obtain holiday season dates contact Scott, KA4FRO at (813) 685-2514.

WEST PALM BEACH

The Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council, Inc., is giving amateur license tests on each third Saturday of each month (except October) at Palm Beach Community (Junior) College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Criminal Justice Room 101 at 9:00 a.m.

The tests are given under the ARRL-VEC and currently cost \$4.55. Walk-ins permitted as long as we have test materials available. Pre-registration strongly advised, except for code testing.

Next tests for 1989 will be September 17th, November 19th and December 17th. The October tests will be given on October 15th and 16th at 9:00 a.m. at South Florida Fair Grounds, PBRA Hamfest, 9067 Southern Boulevard (State Road 80), West Palm Beach, Florida.

V.E.C. 1990 EXAM SCHEDULE
Fort Walton Beach:

ARRL/VEC exams by Playground ARC, are held quarterly at the clubhouse — 17 East First Street, Fort Walton Beach. The 1990 dates are March 10th, June 9th, September 8th and December 8th. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome. Fee is \$4.95. For further information contact Bill Hord, W4WIJ at (904) 243-9720; or Hal Byrd, WG4X at (904) 243-0882.

Crestview:

FCC exams are given the second Saturday of each third month (February, May, August and November) at 9:00 a.m. at the Council on Aging Building, 298 South Wilson Street, Crestview, Florida. Fee is \$4.00. Walk-ins welcome. Bring original and copy of license, and a photo identification. For more information contact Bill Pate, WB4ORK. Route 1, Box 189, Crestview, Florida; telephone (904) 682-0539.

PORT SAINT LUCIE AREA

Fort Pierce, Florida • Saint Lucie County

The Fort Pierce ARC is sponsoring ARRL/VEC's each month on the fourth Saturday, at the Saint Lucie Emergency Operations Center. Go west of I-95. Pass Highway 713 to Rock Road. It is on the right-hand side.

Register at 9:00 a.m. and the test will be given at 9:30 a.m.

Call Bill Shisler, W3DHN for information at (407) 466-5648.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR EXAMS AT HAMCATION

FCC exams will be given on Sunday, March 25, 1990 at the Orlando Hamcation in the Orange County Civic Center at 10:00 a.m.

To pre-register you must send: (1) completed 610 Form; (2) a copy of your FCC license; (3) copies of any CSCE's; (4) a list of test(s) you want to take; and (5) a \$4.00 check made to R.V. Mackey/CVE.

Mail these five items to: R.V. Mackey, N4ADI, P.O. Box 941598, Maitland, Florida 32794. They must be mailed before March 10th and you will receive a numbered registration receipt for your test(s). For information call N4ADI at (407) 644-5905.

Remember, tests by pre-registration, only! Good luck.

PARKLAND AREA

The Siemens Amateur Radio Club sponsors ARRL/VEC coordinated exams the third Friday every month at 17:30 hours, except December which will be the second Friday. The tests will be given at the Spanish River High School, 5100 Jog Road, Room 8207, Boca Raton.

Pre-registration is recommended, but walk-ins are accepted if testing materials are available. Novice exams are free... all others are \$4.95.

Bring a photo identification, your original license and a copy and the original and a copy of any CSCE's. All forms are provided.

Contact Ron Diego at (407) 994-7168 during business hours or (407) 487-1726 evenings and weekends for more information or to pre-register.

PALM BEACH

Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council and Palm Beach Community College Amateur Radio Club are giving amateur radio license tests the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Palm Beach Community College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida, Criminal Justice Room 101, for \$4.95.

Walk-ins permitted as long as we have test materials available.

Next tests are October 13th and 14th at hamfest at South Florida Fair Grounds on State Road 80.

For information call Graf Buckenmaier at (407) 582-7617.

OSCEOLA COUNTY

The Osceola Amateur Radio Club is offering examinations for all five classes of amateur radio licenses, novice through extra classes, on Saturday, May 5th, at 9:00 a.m. at the Osceola County Senior Citizens Center at 1099 Shady Lane.

Anyone interested may contact Lloyd Garvin at (407) 846-0204.

ATTENTION ALL SOUTH FLORIDA HAMS!

Are you concerned about declining interest in amateur radio by the nation's youth, but don't know what you can do to help? Well, now South Florida amateurs have the opportunity to introduce individuals of all ages to our exciting hobby, through an exhibit at **Discovery Center**, Broward County's largest science museum.

This fall an amateur radio display will be included in a temporary exhibit at the museum. Volunteers are needed to operate the radios at the booth and demonstrate them to the public during the weekends.

If you are interested in participating or would like further information, call David, KB4NRC at (305) 563-1226.

FLORIDA ROUTING TRAFFIC GUIDE

A must in every Florida Ham Shack. Edited by Ron Mettler, WB4GHU. ARRL numbered texts, CW abbreviations, Emergency Communications, Florida city abbreviations, Florida cities listing, ICAO alphabet info on traffic handling, Message form, Florida net listing, NTS routing guide, QN signals, 3rd party traffic restrictions, toll-free calling areas, 2 letter state abbreviations, State abbreviation and ZIP codes, ARRL Net Directory registration form, MARS "Z" signals most used, and more. 64 pages.

ONLY \$5.00

Postage Paid (U.S. & Canada)

FLORIDA SKIP

P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266

KNIGHTS OF THE KILOCYCLE

3910 Kc. Sunday, 1130 Z — 0730 EDT

I'll start by giving a semi-apology to the FCC for last months comments about the new "no code" license proposal!! I did what I suggested everyone to do and went back and read the proposal again.

Well, they covered my big objection about the deletion of the low-band C.W. allocation very nicely, by authorizing technician privileges for the new communicator licensee who passes the five words per minute code test. No new technician licenses will be issued, but the communicator license along with a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) issued by the V.E. when he passes the code test, will give him all technician privileges. The communicator license alone will allow all privileges on the 220 M.C. band and above, with a limit of 200 watts PEP.

Although they have proposed a "no-code" license and have made provision for maintaining the novice or technician portions of the bands, they have also succeeded in some confusion and not significantly easing the code requirement, which started the whole thing.

Please read the proposal and make your comments accordingly.

Not much going on with the net lately.

Jay, K9BSL has returned from his trip to England. The Royal Family didn't get to see him while he was there, but he had a good time anyway.

Duke, KI4GH has his new titanium leg, so he'll be ready to go for the fall hamfest season.

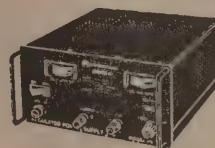
Congratulations to Wes, W4COW and Blanche, W4GXJ on their anniversary. Also to Andy, W4IYT; Berry, K4OII; George, W4MDV; and their XYL's on their recent anniversaries.

We also have an extra-class call on the net since Charles, ex-WA4OCC got his new AB4VF call-sign.

Many thanks to Doc, W4SME for helping out with the testing at the FMCA Rally, recently held at Tampa.

Das Ist Alles Fur Nu.

— 73 & 88 et CUL



12 AMP.	\$39.95
25 AMP.	\$94.00
35 AMP.	\$119.00

PS12

Output 13.8 VDC, 10amp constant 13amp surge low ripple, electronic overload protection w/instant auto reset.

PS25

Fully regulated, 4.5-15 volt variable, 25amp constant 27amp surge, low ripple output, electronic overload protection w/instant auto reset, fuse protected, with Dual Meter for current & voltage.

PS35

Same as above except, 35 amp constant - 37 amp surge, adjustable from 10 to 15 volts.

(TWO YEAR WARRENTY)

144MHz

GPV-5S

\$69.90

Considered by the experts to be the best constructed 2 Meter antenna on the market today. 7.0 dB Gain-0 angle of radiation. Constructed of hard aluminum and stainless steel. Introductory Price \$69.90

AMATEUR-WHOLESALE ELECTRONICS FOR YOUR NEAREST DEALER OR TO ORDER
1040 Industrial Drive, Box 284, Wabashville, Georgia 30087

Repairs Service: (404) 769-4700—2:00 PM - 4:00 PM FAX (404) 769-7070 (7pm-10am) Telex: 4930709 ITT

Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Mon-Fri Telephone (404) 769-8708

L.A.N. LINES

By Kay Anderson, W8DUV

Packet Racket . . . Bytes . . . Beacon . . . White Noise . . . Bulls . . . Digi-Bits. Somebody's already chosen all the good names for packet news. For now, I'll call this column Lan Lines and see if it fits.

F.A.D.C.A.

On May 19th a group met in Ocala to rewrite the by-laws. I had to miss that one, but a friend recorded it all on tape and I did listen to the entire meeting.

Changing FADCA's name to something else was suggested, but did not pass. The by-laws have not been changed. All the LAN's represented there, voted to keep FADCA and not let it die.

Steve, N4GXX took the job of tallying responses from Florida packeteers as to how to define a LAN and what FADCA's goal should be. He will report back to the committee at the JAX Hamfest.

The good news from the Ocala meeting was that there are interested people from one end of Florida to the other, who want to help keep FADCA going.

T.P.A.L.A.N.

Harry, N4DWY resigned as president. Tom, K0ZXF was elected to fill the unexpired term.

A new node will be installed at Chiefland, probably using a Rose switch.

Forwarding to Georgia has been made easier by the addition of WD4LYV on 7.087 MHz. Quiet hours, 7 to 11 p.m., are being observed by most TPALAN BBS's. This gives the keyboarders on 145.05 and .01 a better opportunity to chat or check the boards for their mail.

SRQLAN

Al, W2TKU announced a new node, number SRQ4. Antenna is at 175 feet. Frequency is 441.00, which enables SRQ to connect to points south.

The BITHLOW high-site is working, but not sure it is working 100 percent, yet. Perhaps everyone is trying at once to use number BTH, causing it to be a little slow. With such a nice central location and at that height, 1,200 feet, it should prove to be a valuable link in the Florida network.

John, KA4ZAY invites you — anyone interested — in 30-meter (10.145 MHz) operation to utilize his node on that frequency. The I.D. is OAK5: KA4ZAY-2.

If you would like to see news about your LAN here, send it to me via packet — W8DUV at W8DUV.

Seen on the Screen

Enter N and your name, ie: N JIM

Name is George. I met you at the club.

*** What?

Enter N and your name, ie: N Jim.

You remember the guy with the gray beard? Thats me — George.

*** What?

Forget it! You seemed much nicer at the club.

*** Disconnected.

Packet Stats

K4CY reports the following statistics for May 1990:

	Bulletins	E-Mail	NTS	Total
W4DPH	515	2,963	351	3,829
W2TKU	444	2,686	234	3,364
W8DUV	529	1,432	104	2,065
K4CY	356	1,145	206	1,707
WD4HIM	406	958	121	1,485
K4GBB	365	655	35	1,055
K4OZS	362	603	43	1,008
WN4IIV	365	275	15	655

PACKET

High speed packet? The new Kantronics Data Engine is the answer. Speeds in excess of 56kb on each of the two radio ports are possible with proper modems — perfect for that user/backbone gateway or dual ported, BBS operation. Based on the NEC V40 processor (p.c. family) with software and hardware developer manuals available.

Coming soon from Kantronics, 1202 East 23rd, Lawrence, Kansas 66046; (913) 842-7745.

P.C.A.R.S. PROPAGATIONS

By Gerry Wentz, KC4EHT

The departure of the "snowbird" hams is having a pronounced effect on the attendance of the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS), however, a respectable number of members attended the monthly meeting, Monday, May 14th. Much of the club's activity now focuses on the upcoming hamfest which not only promises to be the best ever held by the club, but it will notch its 25th hamfest anniversary on September 8th and 9th.

The hamfest is under the capable direction of Chairman Joe Filbert, KD4SF who has filled most of the committee positions and has them responding favorably to his whip.

Advance registration for \$4 and a self-addressed stamped envelope, makes the Melbourne Hamfest an attractive bargain in light of the skyrocketing prices of other hamfests of this caliber in Florida and surrounding states.

Admission will be \$1 at the door. Swap tables will be \$10 (\$15 for two days), plus the registration ticket fee. The nearby Ramada Inn will provide motel accommodations for \$39 per room.

As usual, talk-in will be on the club's 146.85/25 repeater.

As the time draws nearer for the hamfest, watch for more details in your Florida Skip.

The May meeting featured a talk by Eric Smitt, K9ES on DXing with the aid of packet radio.

A packet cluster bulletin board system is operational and available in the Melbourne area through Perry Rockwell, K3ARV and can be found on 144.950 MHz. The system allows multiple users to access the system and it is linked to other systems to provide a large reporting network. There are many other features inherent to the system and the serious DXer with packet capabilities should consider this attractive tool to DXing.

There are other stations operating throughout the state and one may want to check for the station in their area.

The PCARS meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Red Cross Building on Hickory Street in Melbourne. Interested persons are cordially invited to attend and doughnuts and coffee are standard fare at the meetings.

NEW AMATEUR PUBLICATION

HamPute, Inc., of Auburn, California, will introduce HamPute™ magazine at the 1990 Dayton Hamvention®. The publication is dedicated to the application of computer technology to amateur radio. The bimonthly will feature product reviews, tutorials and projects related to amateur Digital Signal Processing (DSP) and other microcomputer techniques.

Publisher Richard Blasco, NX6R believes that DSP will revive hands-on experimentation and will bring about new techniques in amateur radio. Formerly WA4DHU, Richard was technical editor for Florida Skip magazine during the 1960's. He was the architect and project manager for the American Microsystems S2811 DSP chip and has been a DSP consultant for the past 10 years.

Alan Page, KE4WO brings amateur radio retailing experience as Vice President of Marketing and Sales. Advisors are Dr. Surendar Magar, developer of the Texas Instruments TM32010 and TMS32020 DSP chips and Andy Clark, W4IYT, publisher of Florida Skip magazine.

Subscriptions are \$10 (U.S.) per year. Contact HamPute, Inc., P.O. Box 6797, Auburn, California 95604; telephone: (916) 885-2938; or fax: (916) 885-0619.

HOW TO CANCEL THE LICENSE OF A SILENT KEY

The FCC no longer deletes the call-signs of "silent keys" from its records unless their cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, plus a two-year grace period, the family of the deceased amateur could continue to receive correspondence, based upon FCC records, for that period.

In order to avoid this unwanted correspondence, families of deceased amateurs may send the license, or a letter if the license cannot be found, to FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

— Reprinted from the ARRL Letter

RATE CARD INFORMATION

HAMBAR service of electronic equipment only is available to all subscribers, amateurs and non-amateurs at the rate of 10 cents per word, which includes address, call sign, etc. Minimum charge for any HAMBAR is \$3.00. All commercial and non-subscribers rate is 15 cents per word. Minimum charge of \$5.00 for each HAMBAR. No reruns. Each HAMBAR must be resubmitted each month. No ad will be published unless accompanied by full remittance! We require all HAMBAR ads contain the full mailing address, call sign, zip and area-phone number, if any. Make it easy for person wanting to buy your equipment. No HAMBARS via telephone!

COMMERCIAL DISPLAY

Full-page \$125.00. Half-page (1/2) \$80.00. One-quarter (1/4) page \$55.00. One-third (1/3) page \$70.00. One-eighth (1/8) page \$40.00. Camera ready. Lay-out, make-up and typeset fee is extra according to size of ad and typeset required for same.

Deadline for all HAMBARS and ads, eighth (8th) of each month in P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Florida 33266. Normal mailing date 25th of each month. Thank you for your cooperation.

— Editor.

NOTICE. A new Amateur radio publication called **RADIOSCAN MAGAZINE** is published monthly in English and Spanish in Miami. **RADIOSCAN MAGAZINE** is published by Radioscan Corporation, 175 Fontainebleau Blvd. Suite 2K-5, Miami, FL 33175 phone 305 551-7225. Subscription prices in USA, one year \$14.95 Radioscan is a first class amateur publication with excellent color photos news, equipment reviews. The size is 14" high by 10 1/2" wide, printed on Slick paper. Best of luck to **RADIO-SCAN** and its staff.

WANTED URGENT: Schematic for MFJ-1B FAX Interface and power supply. Made by Stinson Southwest. Ernie Feist, WA4CCP, 245 N.W. 119 St., Miami, FL 33168 305 681-5569.

FOR SALE: SONY BVU-110, 3/4 inch portable V.T.R. with P.S. charger and Battery, works good \$550. Also 250 portable cine 60 lamp, with battery belt and rapid charger \$150. Package deal \$650. for everything. Richard Marsh WA4JJQ, 7350 Buchanan St., Hollywood, FL 33024 305 961-6839.

REPAIR SERVICE! ICOM KENWOOD, YAESU, TEN-TEC, AZDEN & ATLAS repaired at reasonable cost, producing quality performance, in our own electronically sophisticated lab. Ship equipment with letter stating problems & your preferred method of payment to **INTERNATIONAL RADIO & COMPUTERS, INC.**, 751 S. Macedo Blvd., Port St. Lucie FL 34983 (407) 879-7868.

SELL: Hy-Gain vertical 18AVT perfect on 10-15-20-40. Lost 80 M trap. Cost \$179.50 sell for \$30.. Ed Bruns W4ZGF, 360 Constitution Way, North Ft. Myers, FL 33917 813 731-0061.

SELL: TOSHIBA compact CD player mod. XR-J9 \$100. JVC Car radio stereo 8 watt/channel digital cassette \$100. Amiga 1000 disk drive 512K mouse software built in parallel serial ports stereo \$550. Geo Booras W4GXY, 1501 N.E. 147 St., Miami, FL 33161 305 945-9558.

FOR SALE: BEARCAT SCANNER BC-175XL only 2 mo. old. Covers Aircraft, 2 Mtrs, 70 CM, police, fire, Govt. 10 Mtr, marine, etc. 16 channels many features, \$120. Ham - 4 rotor, no control box, works well \$40. Kenwood SW-200 with HF, VHF couplers, needs work. Make offer. Mark Lavalie N4XGZ evenings 305 961-2642. 1900 N 39th Ave., Hollywood, FL 33021-4841.

FOR SALE: COLLINS Mint 75S-3B with matching spkr-manual \$325. Yaesu Very nice, linear amp, FL-2100B new finals, manual, spare PS tubes. \$500. Lou Spradling N4WJV 1766 Normandy Dr., Mt. Dora, FL 32757 904 383-8457.

FOR SALE: MINT condition Drake equipment. Drake TR-4CW transceiver, Drake MS-4 power supply/speaker, Drake ant. tuner MN-2000. Asking \$635. but will negotiate. Also have new Antec Filter, Shure desk mike mod. 444, Hybrid Quad Ant. mod. HQ-1 (on a pipe pole.). Rev. Asa Mangham, 30 Douglas, Homosassa, FL 32646 904-382-4757 or 628-5631 (Office.)

TOWER WORK FOR HIRE: Tower installation/dismantling, antenna installation. Complete tower maintenance, rotator replacement. Reasonable rates. Serving Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties. N4XGZ Mark Lavalie, 1900 North 39th Ave., Hollywood, FL 33021-4841. Call eves 305 961-2642.

FOR SALE: 40 ft. Tapered self supporting tower. \$75. on ground ready to haul. ONAN 6.5 kW generator 120/240 VAC 1800 RPM, exectric start, low hours, almost like new, good for RV, F.D. or stand by power \$1800. Archie Shetler WN3DHI, 2834 Wanda Dr., Titusville, FL 32796-1932 407 267-8918.

BUTTERFLY antenna assembled, never used HF4B \$85. Tower 35 ft. telescoping and tilt over, 4 inch finned 4 ft. pipe for base, down and ready \$45. Audio analyzer EICO al new tubes excellent \$40. Thomas Keeley KB4KJM 1518 SE 32nd St. Cape Coral, FL 33904 542-1358.

WANTED: Power supply for Swan 500C or transformer. Louis Albizati WB4YBB, 8312 SE Skylark Ave. Hobbsound, FL 33455 407 546-6012.

WILL TRADE: Collins KWM2 & 516F2 very good condx and manuals for - Collins 75S3C excellent to mint condx and manual. Lloyd Pfahler W8FKL, 938 W. Douglas Ct., Venice, FL 34293. **SELL:** TEN TEC remote VFO

SELL: TEN TEC remote VFO mod. 242. Best offer. Bob Bookwalter, W4NWF, 728 Valencia Rd., Venice, FL 34285 813 485-7928.

WANTED: HAM equipment and other property. The Radio Club of Junior high school 22 NYC, Inc. is a non-profit organization, granted 501(C) (3) status by IRS, incorporated with the goal of using the theme of ham radio to further and enhance the education of young people nationwide. Your property donation or financial support would be greatly appreciated and acknowledged with a receipt for your tax deductible contribution. Meet WB2JKJ at the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, August 24-26. Joe Fairclough will be moderator for the youth forum and speak at the educational foruj. Contact the "22 Crew" on 7.238/21.395 MHz. Classroom nets for convention updates. Write us at: P. O. Box 1052, New York, NY 10002. Round the clock hotlines: Voice (516) 674-4072, FAX (516) 674-9600.

SELL: NEW ICOM desk top microphone SM-10 \$85.00 Will consider a partial trade for SM-6 or SM-8 in equal condition. New, never used, still in carton, Cushcraft vertical antenna AV-5 \$80. you ship. Ray Kemper K4ICB, 2830 Bismark Way, Sarasota, FL 34231 813 922-0138.

SELL: 160 meter band coil for a Butternut antenna, used one week \$40. Doug Jackson N4SLS, 8911 Lake Dr., New Port Richey, FL 34654 813 856-9121.

DOING THE LOWER WHEN THE HIGHER IS POSSIBLE CONSTITUTES ONE OF THE GREATEST TRAGEDIES IN A MAN'S LIFE..... Tks W4ELR.

SELL ESTATE GEAR: ~~PDC-600 tri-meter SWR/pwr/Mod- meter \$47. Heath SWR AM-2 VSWR Meter/book \$9. Cesco Reflectometer SWR W/book \$12. Citizens Band CB-170C F.S. and SWR meter \$9. Knight Compressor W/cord & plug. \$12. with Inst. man. AMECO Mod. CPS code Practice Geo W/ tone/vol built in spl or phone \$15.00 Dayton Stereo headphones \$8. Drake dummy load Mod. 1550 SWR 1:1 Max 0-30 MHz 1.5:1 Max 30-160 MHz 200 W. \$39.00 W/ coax cable & connectors. Price Elec. Corp 115 VAC Coaxial switch with std PL plugs. \$15.00 All above very clean plus UPS. Andy Clark W4IYT 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.~~

SELL: 40 ft steel tower, slightly rusty but sound \$60. Bill Asbury WB4GYZ, 19125 Waterway Rd., Jupiter, FL 33469. 407 746-3372.

ONE NEWLYWED TO ANOTHER: "MARRIAGE IS REALLY A GRIND. YOU WASH DISHES, MAKE THE BEDS THEN TWO WEEKS LATER YOU HAVE TO DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN."

COLLINS MANUALS: Have following Collins left: 2 51N4 \$10. eac. 3 51N2 - \$10. aac. 1 51M8 \$10., 1 75S1 (copy) \$15. 4 Fundamentals of 66B (300 pages) with KWM diagrams \$40.. 1 Amateur Radio Equipment (1971) \$8. 1 136 B Noise blander \$10. 3 - 62S1 VHF converter \$15 each, 1 709E freq. shift Osc. \$10. 351D1 Mobile mount \$5 and 1 KWM2/KWM2A \$15. Have about 40 HeathKit manuals - what do you need?? Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr. Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

HUMAN FEELINGS HAVE NO SENSE, YET A FAR GREATER PORTION OF OUR ENERGY IS EXPANDED BY OUR FEELINGS THAT BY OUR REASONING...ELR

FOR SALE: Kenwood 2 mtr TR7850 has 15 memories, 40 watts hi 15 wts low. Includes Artron RS12A power supply, mike mobile mount, manual, cartons. Seldom used. Excellent condition. \$235. Pick up only. Loren Tutell W4LCH, 539, Loudon Ave., Dunedin, FL 34698 813 - 736-1011.

FOR SALE: Commodore 128 computer with 1571 disk drive, 1600 modem, PK64 packet/RTTY/CW/Amtor, TNC, Jane 128 program, Goes 128 program, personal finance program and satellite orbit program. \$345. Carols R. Hernandez, K4CAG, 28440 SW 144 Ave., Homestead, FL 33033. Call after 6:30 PM 305 247-5280.

KENWOOD PS-430 power supply, mint condx \$125. Prefer pick-up or you pay UPS. Don Phillips W4PEL, 7807 NW 39th St. Coral Springs, FL 33065 305 752-2990.

THERE IS NO FILURE EXCEPT IN NO LONGER TRYING. tks W4ZGG.

FOR SALE: Tektronix 5441 storage oscilloscope with timebase unit and dual trace amplifier \$800 or trade for HP laserjet printer or HP plotter or HF general coverage transceiver. Wayne Poole KC4XL, 8926 Byron Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33154 305 864-5249.

NOTICE TO DADE CABLE TV VIEWERS. Ye Editor W4IYT, Son Andy Jr., KA4MHL and wife Betty W4GGQ plus others are now producing TV shows. 4 20-30 minute programs a week are produced for local access channel Dynamic 50 - Monday thru Friday starting at 11 A M and repeating at 7 PM. Also one hour time slot on Dade Co. Ed. Chnl Cable TAP 1 each Saturday night 10 to 11 PM. Consult your local cable company program guide for Cable TAP 1 channel number. All shows are produced by Amateurs and non-amateur TV people. If interested in joining this group call Ye Ed at 888-3874. We are strictly non profit! Don't call if you expect money for your services! Tks - AC

SELL: SIGNAL ONE CX7B mint condx, make offer. Kenwood 530S, HAL AT-6000; DS3000 KSR with monitor; MFJ Versa Tuner I; B&W tuner VS1500A; B&W 2 kW amplifier PT2500A; Henry Radio amplifier 3 kW incl. 10 mtr; antennas, power supplies and phone patches. Anything you need for ham radio - Specializing in new, used and consignment equipment. N4EDQ AMATEUR RADIO SALES, 4400 HWY 19A, Suite 10, Mt., Dora, FL 1-800-828-6433.

FOR SALE: YEASU 757GX with mike, in original carton \$795. Yeasu 757HD heavy duty power supply \$235. Cubic Linear 1200W amplifier \$375. SWAN 350D Xceiver in factory carton \$395. Telex-Ham 4 antenna rotor \$350. Shipping extra. Bob Hill N4DNP, 1975 Bottlebrush Dr., Melbourne, FL 32935 407 777-1000.

THE UNITED WAY DRIVE ATTEMPTS TO PUT ALL THE COMMUNITY'S BEGS INTO ONE ASKET...W4ZGG.

SELL: Two Commodore C64's \$90. each. One 1541 drive; one FSD-2 drive (compatible at 1/2 size) \$100.00 each. All cables and associated manuals included. Jack Skubick K8JS, 791 - 106th Ave., Naples, FL 33963 Evenings 813 597-3641.

NOTICE NOTICE HAMBAR USERS NOTIC NOTICE Please print clearly your items for sale. Give complete mailing address and phone numbers. If your HAMBAR arrives after the 15th of the month it will be included in the next months issue. HAMBARS must be submitted in writing only. Do NOT call on phone. All Hambars must be submitted each month. Do NOT send double payment for 2 months. Thanks for your support....AC

MORE ESTATE STUFF MUST SELL: Heath AM-1 SWR meter Manual \$9. Refelectometer SWR/man by CESCO \$12. Heath 100 kc Xtal Calibrator HD-20/with batt. \$10. Heathl Crystal rcvr CR-1 (hard to find) \$15. Heath Resistance Sub Box RS-1 \$9. Price Elec. Coxal 115VAC relay new \$15. Autek Research QF-1a SSB/CW/AM filter with cable, like new \$38. EF Jonson 1kW low pass filter Mod. 250-20 (52 ohms) Hard to find with mounting brack et. \$19. Astatic D104 with PTT G-Stand/cable \$22. More next month. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

FOR SALE: Galena crystals \$1. Galena crystal detector of black plastic and brushed brass \$10. Crystal set tuning coil \$5. G. Gardner, 458 Two Mile Creek Rd., Tonawanda, NY 14150 W2QBC, 716 458-0447.

NEED TUBES?? Have huge inventory, including 3-500Z 572B's etc. Call or FAX for price quotes. Also buy tubes. D & C Electronics, Dick Gross, N1BGL, 3089 Deltona Blvd., Springs Hill, FL 34606 904 688-2374 FAX 904 683-9595.

TOWER WORK FOR HIRE. Tower installation/dismantling, antenna installation, complete tower maintenance, rotor replacement. Reasonable rates. Serving Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties. N4XGZ, Mark Lavallee, 1900 North 39th Ave., Hollywood, FL 33021-4841 Call eve 305-961-2642.

WANTED: More station/operator photos. Club action shots and special event photos. Any size black and white or color. Give names, calls etc. Can return photos with a SASA please. Editor, Box 501, Miami Springs, FL 33266.

WHEN YOU WORK SPEAKS FOR ITSELF, DON'T INTERRUPT. tks W4ZGG

YAGI BUILDERS, tube traps, tubing, clamps and Universal plate for boom to mast or elements. SASE for list. For your pet project we have complete metal fabrication, capability. A charge of \$10.00 per quote is made which will apply upon placement of order. USA and Canada call between 1-2 PM EST. 1-800-833-3794 Monday thru Friday. Brown Engineering Inc., 5501 SW 25th Ct., Hollywood, FL 33023.

IF YOU GET STUCK, KEEP ON WORKING AND IT WILL WORK ITSELF OUT... tks W4ELR

BRAND NEW EIMAC 3-500Z in unsealed box \$90.00 Brand new in box Kenwood TS940S, Kenwood MC-60 base mike etc. \$1490 with manual etc. Plus UPS Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166 305 888-3874.

FOR SALE: J ohnson kW matchbox tuner \$125. Daiwa CNW-518 tuner \$195. Both excellent condx. John Morris K5OTI, 16001 SW 83rd Ave., Miami, FL 33157 305 477-4936 office hours.

FOR SALE: Weston Elec. Mics, type 630S mic \$75.00 Altec mic with matching xformer \$45. Hallicrafters model FM 50A transceiver \$75. 147-174 mcs. 6vdc, 12vdc & 117 vac 35 watts. 3 RCA 15 watt transceivers, 1 base station \$75. 1 - Heathkit counter type IM-4100 \$25. Heath DX-160 solid state 5 band comm rcvr \$50. Dumont pulse generator \$20. Hickok tube tester, latest type 532 \$50. 8 - Glass chimeys (4-4-type) lot \$50. Large supply of insulators, antenna, feed-thru, space4s etc. 65 ft. ladder type, 450 ohm, spacers 2"X 3/8" center insulator and spring tension \$7.50 ONV Safety Belt, brand new still in sealed box \$30. Private patch2, brand new still in box \$100. large supply EFJ 4 and 5 pin bakelite and porcelain. Plus shipping costs. Len Jezorek W4LC, 20 Celestial Way, Juno Beach, FL 33408 407 626-1126 after 4 PM.

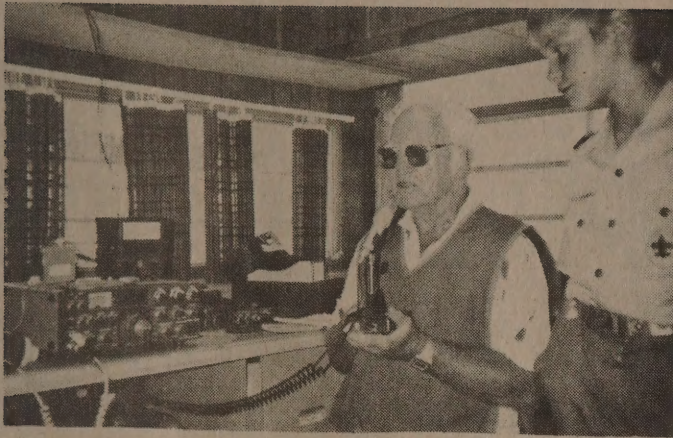
FOR SALE: 40 ft. tapered self supporting tower. \$100. on ground ready to haul. Onan 6.5 kW generator, 122/240 VAC 1800 RPM Electric start, low hours. Almost like new, good for RV or standby power \$1,800. Archie Shetler WN3DHI, 2834 Wanda Dr. Titusville, FL 32796-1932 407 267-8918.

NEW BOOKS

Kantronics, Inc. has announced the publication release of several digital communication books as well as other books related to the amateur radio hobby. These books are published by Kantronics and carry the name Kantronics Press. The latest title releases include *RS-232 and Packet*, *Advanced Packet Operation*, *Packet Commands*, *The Packet Glossary of Terms*, *Quick Start Packet*, *Communications Tables*, *The Hamfest Book* and *The Ham Club Book*.

The retail price in the U.S. for each book is \$2.50 plus \$1.00 shipping and handling charge. To order, please contact your Kantronics dealer or the factory.

Kantronics, Inc.
1202 E. 23rd Street
Lawrence, KS 66046
(913) 842-7745



From a mobile trailer home set up at the Scout-orama, near Okeechobee, Bob K4INJ shows the scouts how to talk to Russia via amateur radio. Members of the Okeechobee Amateur Radio club manned the station during the Scout-orama. Participants were WA4HPB, Dot; WB4SMU, Phil; KC4NNG, Andy; WD4DUI, Rob; WB4TOS Sue; and WA4TOS Bill. (photo by WA4TOT')

AMATEUR TELEVISION IN JACKSONVILLE

By Rick, WB4BSP

Amateur television in Jacksonville is really moving forward. In the last months, much has happened and much has been planned, toward making an ATV repeater a reality. Thanks to the efforts of a large group of hams who have spent a lot of time and money experimenting with ATV, Jacksonville will soon have an ATV repeater. A couple of different groups have been working on different facets of the repeater.

An organizational/informational type meeting was held for interested parties at the Red Cross Headquarters. At the meeting interest was shown for two different types of repeater systems. One was an in-band 430 MHz repeater and the other was a crossband system using the 430 band for input and 1.2 GHz band for the output. It appears that we will have the best of both worlds as the two systems will be linked together.

Wayne, N4KWC, who put up the first ATV beacon, has spearheaded a group putting up a 426.25 beacon in Downtown Jax. This beacon has been seen all over Duval County and has generated much excitement. The beacon produces a P5 signal at the Nassau/Duval County line at Rick, WB4BSP's shack and Herb, N4NJM can see the beacon at his shack in Arlington on almost any antenna. (He doesn't have to use his high gain beam.) The beacon can be seen virtually all over Duval County and will be the output for the new repeater system. Cable Channel 58 is 426.25 MHz and Wayne reports that he is seeing the beacon at his shack on the northside.

Henry, AA4QI simultaneously has been experimenting with 1.2 GHz ATV and will head up the efforts for the 1.2. portion of the repeater. A 1.2 GHz beacon was put up at the Southern Bell Tower using one watt. The signal was seen by John, WA4CDZ at Jacksonville Beach! This frequency is getting most of the experimenting now and we'll have a progress report next month. The way things have been moving ahead so rapidly, it will be a surprise if we don't have this portion of the repeater system, as well as, the 440 in-band system working within a month.

The Orlando Hamfest had an ATV forum and a crowd of nearly 100 attended. Jacksonville represented probably 25 percent of the crowd. Henry Ruh, KB9FO, editor of the ATV Quarterly, spoke and a tape of Daytona Beaches ATV activity were the highlights.

The Jacksonville group of ATVers has plans to show the video from all space shuttle missions (we've already done it once). Also plans to broadcast the Weather Imagery from the GOES Weather Satellite, are being planned. Outdoor camera's showing Downtown Jax are being planned.

The Daytona ATV group is planning to launch a balloon with ATV with a beacon on 434.0 MHz, on July 14, 1990, at 9 a.m. EDT. The balloon is expected to go over 100,000 feet. A balloon watch

net is scheduled on 7.155 MHz. A C.W. identification will be transmitted on 144.34 MHz. This beacon should be seen for over 300 miles.

Special thanks to Wayne, N4KWC for getting the ball rolling in Jacksonville for ATV. Wayne is the E.C. for Duval County and sees great potential for mobile ATV in Jacksonville and the surrounding area. Henry, AA4QI also deserves a special thanks for pioneering the 1.2 GHz aspect of ATV in Jacksonville. We are going to have ATV Repeaters in Jax thanks to the lead taken by these two dedicated amateurs. An additional thank you to Randy, WD4SFR and Barry, KC4MSX for their help in getting the beacon operational from downtown.

Active ATVers in the Jacksonville area include:

Barry WD4ASW (who donated some of the equipment being used). Paul, KB4PML; Mike, N4EPD; Mitch, WB4RUT; H.L., N4RPA; Russell, AA4MO; Gary, KB4ZXY; Tex, W4MET; as well as the hams mentioned above.

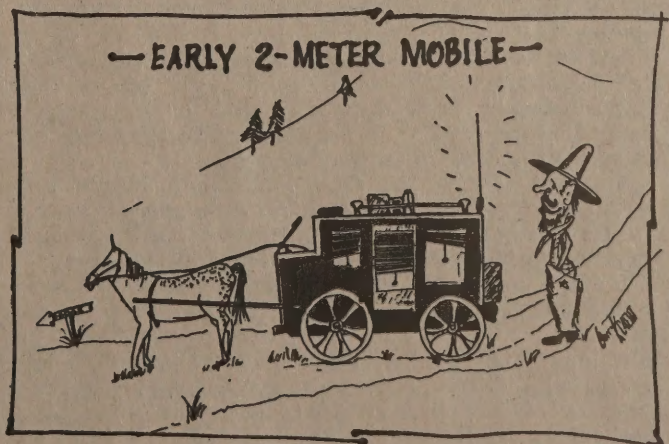
The date for the next ATV meeting has not been set yet, but will be announced on Wednesday night nets and posted on the KB4OWD BBS (packet). The excitement is growing about ATV in Jacksonville.

If you have any questions, please call Wayne, N4KWC on the 147.33 repeater or phone (904) 765-1252; or Henry, AA4QI on the 444.800 SBT repeater.



The Marion Co. Fair was well represented by the Ocala Amateur Radio Club ARRL Special Service display station. The booth was well covered throughout the fair by club members. They handed out pamphlets on amateur radio according to Wayne Smith N4VGY. Plans are in the work for a bigger affair next year.

Photo via N4VGY)



From back page.

the next two weeks. After leaving Auckland, our first stop was Wellington, the capital of New Zealand.

After docking, we boarded a van for a trip through the city viewing the many government buildings. Then we proceeded to drive for about an hour over roads, some paved, some gravel and some just dirt, ending at a rocky seashore, where we watched divers go between the rocks looking for lobsters and abalone that we would later eat at this picturesque hotel called Wrangaronga.

Next was Dunedin, originally founded by Scottish immigrants. Naturally, we were met by a bagpipe band. We then boarded a train that was along side the dock for a four-hour scenic trip to the Taieri Gorge.

From Dunedin we cruised around the southern tip of the south island of New Zealand and steamed into Milford Sound. A beautiful inlet similar to the fiords of Norway. The ship then headed for Australia, a thousand miles across the Tasman Sea, taking three days to reach Hobart, Tasmania the southern-most state of Australia.

While at sea, I visited the radio room which contains all the latest satellite radio equipment. The chief radio operator was Norwegian with a Norwegian ham license, but he couldn't use it since the ship sails under Bahamas registry. He did have a Kenwood 2000 Receiver which I turned around the 15- and 20-meter bands, but the only activity was from Australian hams, due mainly to the time difference of 16 hours between there and the East Coast of the United States.

Hobart, Tasmania, our first stop in Australia, has a growing wine industry with many vineyards, sugar cane fields and lots of sheep. There's a NASA tracking station in the countryside. Hobart is the home of the tasmanian devil. Yes, there really is an animal named the tasmanian devil. It is about the size of a large possum, black with a white stripe across the chest. It's well named as it's a nasty little devil and will fight over a piece of meat with another devil, both holding onto the meat, while pulling in opposite directions.

Australia has many other animals that are unique to this continent. Its 50-million year isolation from the world's land masses has produced unique forms of wildlife. Over 100 species consist of marsupials that carry their young in pouches. Several of the more common are the wallabee, koala, wombat and kangaroo. An eight-foot kangaroo can run up to 25 miles an hour and leap 27 feet. Baby kangaroos are called Joey's.

Australia is another modern, thriving country with much new construction. However, in a country about the size of the United States, the population is only 30-million and most of them live along the East Coast since the center of the country is mostly desert inhabited by the Aborigines for over 40,000 years.

There is minimal crime in Australia and one can walk downtown at night in complete safety.

Most Australians are quite "laid back" and don't get too worked up over life in general. In fact, while we were there, they had a national election for prime minister and no one much cared who won.

The world-famous Sydney Opera House with its unique clam-shell design, juts into the harbor, greeting us at our last port. Originally designed to cost seven-million, it ended up costing one-hundred-and-three-million. To make up the cost difference, they instituted a lottery and raised the money.

Sydney is the largest Australian city with a population of about five-million. It also has a monorail around the inner city and a "bayside-like" waterfront called Harbourside. There is so much construction going on, the state bird is now the building crane.

To round out our visit to Sydney, we took the water taxi to Doyle's at Watson Bay for lunch and had some "shrimp on the barbie."

All Australian cities have various forms of gambling with a few casinos and lots of poker and pinball machine parlors. Prostitution is also legal, but is limited to specified areas. No street solicitations allowed.

Other cities we visited were Melbourne, Brisbane and Cairns. Melbourne's highlight was trip to Phillips Island to watch the



While visiting "down under" Frank Nankin K4BNZ and his lovely wife pose with this lil guy. Read Frank's travel story in this issue.

fairly penguins come out of the sea at dusk. This event is unique to this area and a "must-see" for all visitors.

In Brisbane, we took a tour bus south to the Town of Surfers Paradise, passing through towns named Miami and Palm Beach. This whole area is called the Gold Coast and features a large casino and hotel complex named Jupiters.

Cairns is famous for the Great Barrier Reef with its varied marine life and the Cape Tribulation Rain Forrest. Cairns weather is very similar to Miami's in temperature and humidity.

We also bused to a small town in the interior named Karanda, where we visited a butterfly sanctuary (you go inside a huge atrium with over 4,000 butterflies flitting around), a noctarium where, once you get used to the dark, are able to watch many nocturnal animals (such as fruit bats) flying around.

Karanda is also the home of the Tjapukai Theater featuring a delightful performance by the Aborigines doing their tribal dances.

The entire northeast coastal waters of Australia is populated by stingrays. These are slightly similar to jelly fish, but with tentacles up to 30 feet long and will kill you if caught in their grasp. Also crocodiles are quite common in the streams and signs warn people not to swim in them.

After a month, it was time to come home. We boarded the plane at Cairns and five flights and 34 hours later, arrived in Miami.

BOO-BOO DEPARTMENT

Last month, June issue, page 7, column two, half way down . . . Editor's Note: Mr. Muller became a "silent key" this past month. This was his final editorial.

THIS IS NOT TRUE!

Mr. Karl Muller, W3UBQ is well and healthy, he tells me. It is W3BOU who is the "silent key". Sorry about that Mr. Muller.

This also proves to me, we have a lot of alert amateurs that read every word in *Florida Skip* and that makes me very happy!

Thanks to the others who called and brought this boo-boo to my attention.

— A.C.

LOOK AGAIN

Look at the top line of your mailing label. This is your **ONLY REMINDER WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION RUNS OUT!** You can renew ANYTIME before expiration date and our computer will automatically "ADD ON" from that date. It is just like putting money in the bank. We take renewals for one, two or three years, if you so desire.

So it's up to you to watch that top line. If you miss, the computer will automatically skip over your address when printing mailing labels.

Thanks for your cooperation in this important matter.

— 73, Editor